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OPINION METER

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An online radio station that caters to Chamorro and Carolinian hits the Web.

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Less than four years after their wedding, Eva Longoria seeks to divorce basketball star Tony Parker.

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CUC incurs operating loss of $5.2M in FY2010. PAGE 5

Saipan-bound 40-ft container arrives with contents missing

» Over $31K worth of baby diapers stolen or switched

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 40-foot container from New Zealand and routed through Malaysia, Hong Kong and Guam lost its contents of baby diapers worth over $31,000 before reaching its final destination on Saipan early Wednesday morning.

Customs director Jesus C. Muña and customs inspector 3 John Paul Sablan said the container's consignee is now investigating to determine the port where the shipment could have been stolen or switched, among other things.

Muña and Sablan said this is the first time that Customs has encountered an empty container bound for Saipan.

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'Do more research before acting on pot bill'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senators are set to act today on a House measure legalizing marijuana use in the CNMI for all purposes, but a lawyer is urging senators to investigate and research the issues "before taking action on this bill based on uninformed rhetoric and emotion."

Attorney Jeanne Rayphand, in a Nov. 15 letter to senators, said she has not found any support for the assertion that the CNMI will lose millions in federal grants should House Bill 17-47, House Substitute 1 is enacted into law, or that the children will be more at risk.

Rayphand also said the passage of the

See DO MORE on Page 4

START SMART

Hundreds of Kagman High School and Saipan Southern High School students take part in the Northern Marianas College and Public School System's "Start Smart Seminar 2010/2011" at the Saipan World Resort in Susupe yesterday. The seminar, which continues today, provides senior students an overview and orientation about college education, including potential scholarships and financial aid programs that would help them continue their education.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story on Page 2



Micronesian chiefs seek stronger ties with feds

» Fitial also undergoes health check in California

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and other Micronesian leaders signed a joint resolution with the Region 9 Federal Regional Council in California to pledge resources and commit to climate change, health care reform and workforce development, among other issues.

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> "We must also work to establish and foster partnerships that will help improve our infrastructure and rebuild our economic viability anew."
>
> —Gov. Benigno R. Fitial



Local

'Waiver on advance parole fee needs change in law'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A waiver on the advance parole fee for CNMI guest workers in emergency situations requires a change in the law and should be taken up with the U.S. Congress itself, according to an official of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Responding to a request by the United Workers Movement Inc., Annette V. Speaks, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Customer Assistance Office supervisor, encouraged the group to directly contact CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan to explain their perspective.

"The responsibility for enacting new laws or changing existing laws rests with the U.S. Congress," said Speaks in a Nov. 4, 2010, letter to UWM president Rabby Syed.

Syed had written to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano on Oct. 10, 2010, to request that the fee for travel document Form I-131 or advance parole be waived due to the bad economic situation in the CNMI.

Syed said many alien workers work for less than 80 hours per pay period and could not afford the advance parole fee of $305, which will increase to $360 by Nov. 23, 2010.

Syed told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they are going to follow Speaks' advice to contact Sablan and explain their request.

He added that they will also ask USCIS district director David Gulick and USCIS field office director Walter Haith to set up the processing of advance paroles in the CNMI as the processing, which is currently being done in Guam, takes a long time and poses an inconvenience to the workers.

NMC Start Smart seminar attracts 400 students

About 400 graduating public high school students participated in the Start Smart seminar organized by the Northern Marianas College at the Saipan World Resort Hotel yesterday.

NMC Students' Services dean Leo Pangelinan was elated to see all Saipan Southern and Kagman high school seniors attend what he described as a very successful event.

Among the highlights in yesterday's event were the inspirational remarks of Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan and NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, who both encouraged participants to take advantage of all the information presented to them.

NMC program offerings, including its accreditation history, were also presented to participants as well as the various financial aid options that they can avail of.

Today, over 300 seniors from Marianas High School will take part in the seminar.

Pangelinan said it was the first time the seminar was held in November—from the previous years' schedule in April—in response to student requests.

This year marks NMC's third year of hosting the seminar, which seeks to increase student awareness of the importance of going to college. NMC began the seminar in 2008. Since then, more and more students are opting to pursue college, both here and off-island, Pangelinan said.

"I believe we're making an impact on the decision of our students and impact on the broad range of choices for them," he said.

However, he emphasized that it is the primary goal of Smart Start to encourage students to start their college at NMC.

The Start Smart seminar will also be held on Rota and Tinian on Dec. 1 and 10, respectively.

According to 18-year-old Shana Mettao of Kagman High School, yesterday's presentation gave her valuable tips for college such as seeking financial aids.

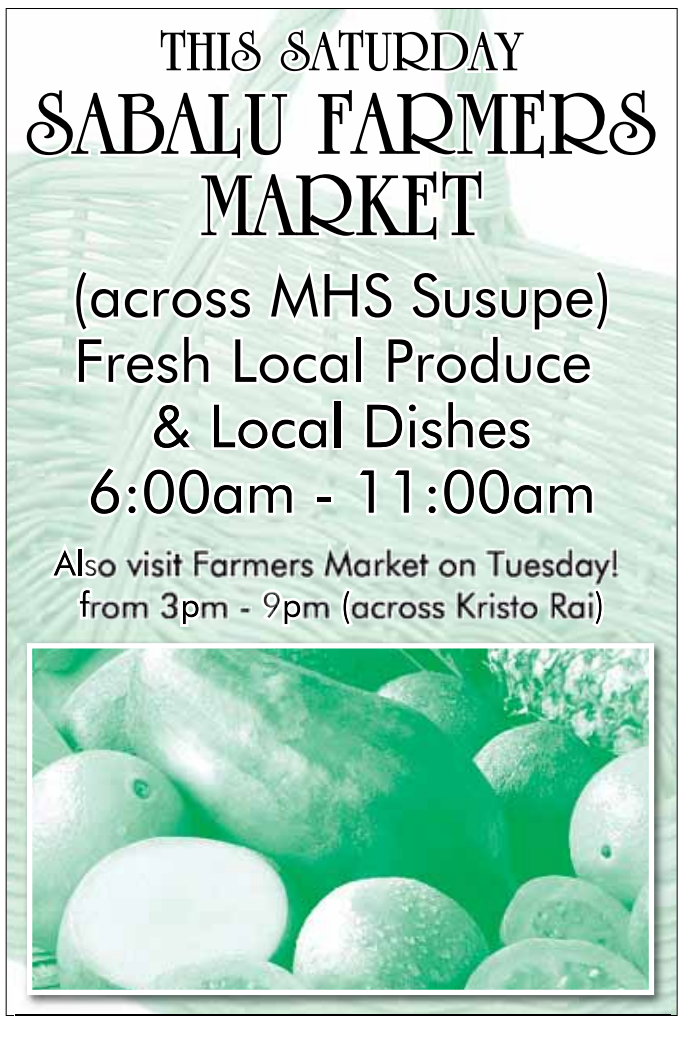
"With all the presentations and information provided to us today…I don't think we have a reason not to go to college," she told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that she has decided to join the military after graduation but plans to pursue a degree later.

Mereylen Denora, 17, of SSHS, said she plans to avail of the scholarship opportunities so she could become a music teacher. After graduation, she will join the National Guard Band in Guam.

Darrell Reyes, 17, of Kagman High School, was convinced to enroll at NMC after graduation to pursue either a nursing or criminal justice degree. He plans to further his studies abroad after two years. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***







Failed Flame Sako project owes DPL over $55K

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands has terminated its land lease agreement with Flame Sako Corp. after the Korean investor failed to settle its land lease arrears of over $55,000 despite a deadline extension.

Flame Sako's leased public land is on a 109,003-square meter area north of The Palms Resort in San Roque. It had earlier planned to build a $60 million to $80 million hotel in the area.

DPL Secretary Oscar M. Babauta informed Flame Sako Corp. president Dae Sik Kang in an Oct. 27 letter that the land lease deal between DPL and Flame Sako has been terminated and that DPL will begin legal procedures to collect the outstanding balance the company owes the department.

DPL first extended to Sept. 14 its deadline for Flame Sako to clear the company's arrears in lease rental amounting to $55,862.47.

Over a month after the Sept. 14 deadline, DPL had not heard from Flame Sako, resulting in the termination of the land lease deal.

"You are hereby instructed to vacate the property immediately and remove all personal belongings. The property must be restored to its original condition before entering the same," Babauta told Kang.

The DPL secretary gave Flame Sako 30 days to clear and vacate the property.

It was the third time that DPL gave Flame Sako a chance to pursue its hotel project. DPL gave Flame Sako until end of May this year to pay its arrears or the land lease deal will be terminated. The Korean investor paid over $48,000 in unpaid land leases and interest charges incurred since early 2009 to pursue its project.

The Flame Sako president even met with the DPL secretary to discuss the matter. Since that meeting, DPL has not heard from Flame Sako.

DPL also earlier terminated its land lease agreement with Neo Gold Wings Paradise for abandoning its leased property on Tinian.

Government records show Neo Gold Wings owes DPL $78,470.31 in monthly land lease and interest charge, from March 21, 2009 to March 1, 2010. Of this amount, $74,129.03 is for the monthly rentals, and $4,341 is for the interest charges.

Saipan delegation hands off on SHEFA board

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation said yesterday that it respects the autonomy of the Saipan Higher Educational Financial Assistance board and will not intervene in its operation unless valid concerns are raised against the group.

Rep. Ramon Tebuteb, chairman of the Saipan Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, told Saipan Tribune yesterday that the delegation has nothing to say about the SHEFA board's composition because it has already been confirmed.

However, Tebuteb assured that a delegation committee will look into the "impasse" at the board if there's a need to. But at present, the chairman said there is no "investigation" on the matter.

"The question [about confirmation of board members] should be answered by the board itself because the system is already in place," he said.

Tebuteb said intervening in the board's issues may deem as a micromanagement on their part.

Ex-SHEFA consultant William Torres had questioned the board's current composition and Maggie Camacho's appointment as chair, saying she was not confirmed to the post.

In her defense, Camacho said, "Mr. Torres is just trying to make things difficult…since we decided to let his expired contract rest." ***(Moneth Deposa)***

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84-year-old veteran remembers war-torn Saipan

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

When Eric Franck set foot on Saipan some 60 years after his initial visit to the island, he couldn't help but become poignant and emotional about this experience.

"I nearly cried because I remember the hard time that those involved with the war had to go through," Franck told *Saipan Tribune.*

Franck was among the 18-member crew of the minesweeper M/V *Hope* that sporadically docked on the island's harbor for about 10 months back in 1951.

The 84-year old Korean war veteran recounted that he became very eager to visit Saipan after hearing about it again after so many years. "I had to go there," he told himself.

Franck's resolve was supported by his three children—Kristina, Nina, and Lars Eric—who all decided to go with him, including his sons and daughter-in-law, in his journey back to the island that would forever be etched on his mind.

"Visiting Saipan [again], it's very touching. I remember many things, people I've met," he said.

Franck's recollection of Saipan was an island that was severely affected by the war. "I saw the people here on Saipan, and the people in Okinawa. They were very poor people…It was terrible," said the veteran.



CLARISSA DAVID
Korean war veteran Eric Franck.

According to Franck, M/V *Hope* voyaged from San Francisco, with scheduled stops on the islands of Honolulu, Kwajalein, and Guam before disembarking on Saipan.

Franck said the minesweeper crew's involvement with the Korean War at the time left them with the task to transport five captured war spies from Okinawa and leave them somewhere off the coast of communist China.

Franck, who is originally from Finland, said the good pay convinced him to join the mission despite the danger it would bring.

"I was homesick but I thought it's only going to be a year," said Franck who was the second of three children, with a mother waiting for him back in Finland.

After the 10-month journey, Franck said they made it back to San Francisco, where he stayed for about a month visiting sites and even traveling to other cities like New York, Philadelphia, Miami, and New Orleans before heading back to his homeland.

Franck took a two-year vacation, visiting places in Finland, Scandinavia, and Canary Islands before working for a shipping company that ran four passenger ships and 30 freighters.

Arriving on Saipan some 60 years later, Franck admits that it is no longer the same island that he remembers from way back. "It's changed. It's fantastic. It's a paradise," he said, adding Harry Belefonte's song *Island in the Sun* is an apt description for the island.

Franck said he has been to other nice islands, "but you can't compare it to Saipan." "It's so nice, it's so well-kept. I could think to live here," he said.

During his visit, Franck hopes to go see places that would conjure some of his life's most unforgettable experiences, and with a bit of luck, meet fellow veterans with whom he can share war accounts and encounters.

Franck and his family are staying at the Hyatt Regency and are scheduled to depart Saipan on Monday.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Alien workers join Max Aguon and his friend, Richard Santos, to clean up the beach from Sugar Dock to Aquarius Beach Tower on Nov. 6.

Alien workers' group invites community to beach cleanup

A group of Filipino guest workers is again inviting interested individuals to participate in another beach cleanup tomorrow, Nov. 20, from Sugar Dock to Aquarius Beach Tower.

The group first joined Max Aguon and his friend, Richard Santos, in this cleanup activity on Nov. 6. Aguon, who works with the office of Rep. Ralph Demapan, has been doing this cleanup for sometime now. Inspired by Aguon's effort, this group of Filipino guest workers has found a way to give back to the community that has welcomed them for many years.

This Saturday's cleanup is in coordination with William Hunter of the Aquarius Beach Tower and the offices of the Division of Environmental Quality, Coral Reef Management, and Marianas Visitors Authority.

The next cleanup is scheduled on Dec. 4 at the same place and time. ***(PR)***

CHIEFS

From Page 1

The joint resolution brings together effort to strengthen the relationship between federal agencies and Micronesian leaders.

These include collaboration in the areas of grants management and transparency of information, climate change/renewable energy, sustainable communities, workforce development and training, improving health and education, and improving communication and infrastructure.

Fitial and Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho joined leaders from U.S.-affiliated territories and Freely Associated States representing the Micronesian Chief Executive Summit at the historic meeting of the Federal Regional Council in San Francisco, California this week.

Press secretary Angel Demapan also confirmed yesterday that after Fitial attends this meeting, he will undergo "routine follow-up" medical checkup in California.

This is Fitial's second time to visit San Francisco in three months. In August, Fitial was in San Francisco for the Association of Defense Communities' 2010 Annual Conference.

After this week's conference and the medical checkup, Fitial and first lady Josie Fitial will be back on Saipan on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25.

Special assistant for administration Esther Fleming and Tom Linden, chairman of the CNMI Military Integration Management Committee, joined the governor on this trip.

The governor, in his remarks on Wednesday, said the region will be better equipped to address issues through an active collaboration with FRC.

"We must also work to establish and foster partnerships that will help improve our infrastructure and rebuild our economic viability anew," Fitial said in his remarks.

The Federal Regional Council is a consortium of 19 separate federal departments and agencies representing nearly 30 different program offices in Region IX, which covers Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Outer Pacific Islands.

Camacho, who also delivered remarks at the meeting, said the FRC is an "important and influential group."

"We as leaders have gone to Washington, D.C. and have wondered, why go to a place where we are not understood? Here you understand us and you must stand as our advocates for change," Camacho said.

Fitial thanked FRC chair Herb Schultz, the U.S. Health and Human Services Region IX director, for visiting the CNMI during his recent trip to Guam.

"I truly believe that the best way to understand our islands and culture is through a personal firsthand experience," Fitial said.

Camacho, for his part, said the FRC and the Micronesian Chief Executives Summit have forged a new relationship, referring to the joint resolution inked.

"We will take this back to the leaders of the region later this year and discuss efforts to make this a reality versus a plan that will not gain traction in our respective jurisdictions," said Camacho, speaking to more than 100 attendees.

Camacho co-founded the Summit in 2004 with former CNMI governor Juan Babauta, to develop closer ties, enhance existing ties, expand future discussions and agree on beneficial initiatives for the benefit of the Western Micronesian region.

DO MORE

From Page 1

marijuana bill will have no effect on the federal law regarding the control of marijuana.

But Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) reiterated yesterday that the marijuana bill will likely be killed in this afternoon's session on Rota.

Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), for his part, said yesterday it is likely that a medical marijuana bill will gain more support than a bill that allows marijuana use for all purposes, including recreational use.

Rep. Stanley Torres' (Ind-Saipan) marijuana legalization bill is among the major bills on the Senate session agenda.

Torres said if the Senate kills his bill, he will introduce a new measure focusing on medical marijuana.

Rayphand, in commenting on the bill, urged senators to look into at least three major areas, including determining whether the CNMI will really lose millions in federal grants if the bill is passed.

"I have not found any support for this assertion," Rayphand said in her two-page letter to senators dated Nov. 15.

She cited as an example the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Regulations. She said as she understands these regulations, an institution of higher education must adopt and implement a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

"This does not require a criminal statute prohibiting marijuana possession, use or distribution. The same would be true for any requirement that a workplace be drug-free," Rayphand told the senators.

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez earlier told lawmakers that the Department of Public Health alone stands to lose $10 million in federal grants should the marijuana bill pass.

Rayphand, in her letter, also cited the bill's prohibition on furnishing marijuana to minors and provides for criminal penalties for such offenses.

"This bill will not increase the risk of marijuana use by our children and certainly our children will be no more at risk of marijuana use than they are of alcohol and cigarette use," she said.

Rayphand also said the bill's passage will have no effect on the federal law regarding the control of marijuana as set forth in 21 U.S. 841 et seq.

"As pointed out in the findings and purpose of H.B. 17-47, the funds currently being spent by the CNMI for the enforcement of the CNMI criminal statute regarding marijuana use could be used for other purposes and it would be up to the federal government to take whatever action it chooses to enforce federal laws regarding marijuana use," Rayphand added.

She said based on what she has read about marijuana, smoking marijuana does not result in violence.

"And I personally would rather see someone smoking marijuana occasionally instead of drinking alcohol excessively. I would rather someone smoke a marijuana cigarette than drink a six-pack of beer," she said.

Rayphand also said there appears to be evidence that smoking marijuana "is not harmful to one's health and does not cause long-term or permanent mental impairment."

"At any rate, it is certainly no more harmful than alcohol or tobacco. And it does have medicinal uses," she added.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial earlier said he would only support medical marijuana legislation, and that would further depend on how the bill is crafted.

Torres' bill seeks to legalize, regulate and tax marijuana use for medicinal and other purposes in the CNMI, adding to a list of revenue-generating bills pending in the 17th Legislature.

MISSING

From Page 1

"We have to waive the $400 excise tax because there's nothing to be actually taxed," Muña said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* in his office at the Port of Saipan yesterday afternoon.

An official from Genpro International Inc., the Saipan-based consignee for the shipment of baby diapers, said yesterday that based on documents, the container left Auckland, New Zealand on Nov. 2.

The whole shipment was supposed to have 1,150 cases of baby diaper worth over $31,000, said Genpro International, one of the longest existing wholesalers in the CNMI.

From New Zealand, the shipment went through the Port of Klang in Malaysia, and then to Hong Kong.

From there, the shipment went through Guam port before reaching Saipan around 4am on Wednesday.

Genpro has asked that the shipper's name to be withheld because of the ongoing investigation.

Muña urged businesses and consignees "to make sure they have a very clear line with their shipper," to be able to know where their shipment is at any given time.

"This container could have contained other items that are not supposed to be there," the Customs director said, citing homeland safety and security concerns.

In other news, Muña and Sablan said the number of containers coming in has gone up for the past few weeks, mainly because of the holiday season.

Since the pullout of the garment industry, there is rarely any shipment coming out of the CNMI besides scrap metal for recycling. The loss of garment export is one of the major factors in the drastic decline in government revenue.

The Customs Services Division has also seen a dramatic decrease in the number of its employees, from 93 to 54.

"We lost almost half through attrition, meaning we don't replace people as they leave," he said.

CUC incurs operating loss of $5.2M in FY2010

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. incurred an operating loss of $5.2 million last fiscal year—much higher than originally projected for the year, according to chief financial officer Charles Warren.

Warren disclosed yesterday that CUC had estimated its operating loss from October 2009 through September 2010 to reach just over $1 million, based on projections of $83.4 million in total revenues and $84.4 million in total expenditures.

"Budgeted rate funded revenues for fiscal year 2010 were about $83.4 million, and expenses were $84.4 million which would result in a budgeted operating loss of a little over $1 million," Warren told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

However, based on preliminary findings, CUC incurred a much higher actual loss.

Net operating revenues for fiscal year 2010 was $86.5 million, covering all divisions—power, water, and wastewater departments—while operating expenses totaled $92.3 million, resulting in an operating loss of $5.2 million.

All financial details will be disclosed in the annual audit report, which has yet to be adopted. CUC plans to soon release an analysis of the figures.

Last week, CUC had proposed to increase its electric base rate to recover a projected operating loss of $5.6 million annually in the power division alone.

CUC expects to incur a monthly loss of $468,830 in fiscal year 2011 under its current electric base rate, equivalent to annual loss of $5.626 million. CUC said it is therefore necessary to adjust the existing base rate to sustain operations.

According to CUC's rate application, the cost of operating CUC's electric division this fiscal year is $91.904 million. Roughly two-thirds of this cost—$59.96 million—is for fuel while non-fuel costs are $31.939 million.

CUC expects to generate only $26.314 million in revenues from its current base electric rates (non-fuel revenue). This translates to an annual loss of $5.6 million for CUC. The utilities firm asserts in its application that the proposed rate increase is necessary to eliminate these losses.

Since 2008, CUC has been under a state of emergency due to its poor services and condition.

Man who beat up child with plastic hangers gets 9-day prison sentence

A man who beat up his daughter with plastic hangers, causing extensive bruising on her back and legs, was sentenced in Superior Court yesterday to nine days in prison.

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos sentenced Chupwei Toier Willy to six years in prison, all suspended except for nine days, for assault and battery and child abuse, with credit for the six days he had already served in jail.

Willy will be placed on five years of supervised probation.

The judge directed the Office of Adult Probation to conduct random home visits at Willy's place.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Willy in June 2009 with one count of assault and battery, and one count of child abuse.

The victim is the defendant's then 10-year-old daughter.

The case arose after school authorities noticed bruising on the girl's back and legs. The school promptly contacted the Division Of Youth Services and an investigation was initiated.

Photographs were taken of the girl's injuries and she was brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for a medical examination.

The girl testified that Willy used his hands and plastic hanger to hit her. At least one plastic hanger broke. Instead of stopping, though, Willy took another plastic hanger and continued hitting the girl.

The defendant's wife testified that the beating lasted between three to five minutes.

Willy, a Chuukese, argued that this type of beating is common in Chuuk and that he was merely conforming to Chuukese standards.

Inos noted, however, that the victim's uncle, who is also from Chuuk, removed the child from Willy's house after the incident.

"It is not clear from the testimony whether such a degree of corporal punishment is reasonable in Chuuk," Inos said.

Nevertheless, the judge said, the proper standard is that which prevails in Saipan.

"Even through Saipan is a diverse community, the severity of the injuries as depicted in the photographs at trial are clearly beyond the community standards of the CNMI for reasonable parental discipline," Inos said.

The bench trial ended on Oct. 19, 2010, with a finding of guilt against Willy. **(*Ferdie de la Torre*)**

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New diesel technology promises savings and a 'greener footprint'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kermit the Frog may have once sang "It's not easy being green," but for diesel users, it could be effortless and trouble-free, according to a new company that guarantees an environment-friendly form of diesel at a reduced cost.

CNMI Eco Oil opened its doors on Saipan a year ago, with the goal of bringing an enhanced version of a technology that's been around since the 1950s.

General manager Henry Seki said the company takes pride in the fact that they can increase regular diesel's volume by 20 percent, with a corresponding 10 percent savings.

"With the high cost of fuel in the CNMI, 10-percent savings is already significant," he said.

Along with fuel efficiency, Seki said their product also reduces nitrogen and sulfur oxide emissions, such that even local and federal environmental agencies were surprised at how environment-friendly their product is.

Seki told *Saipan Tribune* that their method involves processing regular diesel with treated water that has a higher hydrogen ratio than the oxygen, creating a milk-like product called emulsifying fuel.

"We have a special chemical that we mix with the regular diesel. It's a secret ingredient. It's like a glue to hold the high hydrogen water and the diesel together, not to separate them. It's very simple," he said.

According to Seki, their process can be used not only with regular, uncorrupted diesel but also with used oil that has been treated using the $300,000 press machine they bought from Japan.

Seki said this technology was first developed about 60 years ago but was not well received in the market because the water and diesel separated in a matter of hours. Moreover, the use of regular water caused engines to rust.

He said a Japanese chemist, who now works for their company and supervises the processing of the diesel, has improved the technology to address these issues.

Seki said the emulsifying fuel is recommended for big engines such as generators and double nozzle boilers.

Seki admits that finding customers to test their product has been quite challenging. "Many people think that the water is going to damage the engine. They don't know that we're using a special kind of water and it's sealed inside the diesel component," he explained.

According to Seki, some of the companies they have talked to about their product fear that using the emulsifying fuel will break their engines and generators, losing their warranty in the process.

To address this concern, Seki said they offer insurance to businesses that want to test the emulsifying fuel in their engines. "Just in case their generator broke down because of our fuel, we have full insurance to replace their generator. I've seen the product myself, tested it and it's a very good product," he added.

Seki disclosed that there are hotels that agreed to use their product, like the Kingfisher Golf Links and the Hotel Riviera.

He said Kingfisher agreed to a 1,500-hour test and showed "really good" results and a significant amount of savings for the hotel. Hotel Riviera, on the other hand, has been using the emulsifying fuel in their single nozzle boiler for about two months now.

With the low sulfur diesel use requirement for all hotels—first in Guam then on Saipan by next year—Seki said they are optimistic that businesses will take advantage of their product to be in compliance.

He said the company plans to bring the technology to other Pacific islands like Guam, Palau, and Pohnpei.

For more information, visit CNMI Eco Oil next to Midway Motors in Oleai or call 234-9994.





Blodak not guilty in fastest jury deliberation in NMI history

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

After less than 15 minutes of deliberation, a Superior Court jury on Wednesday reached a not guilty verdict against a heavy equipment operator who was on trial for allegedly repeatedly raping a woman. It was reportedly the fastest jury deliberation in CNMI history.

The six jurors found 53-year-old Michael Blodak not guilty on two counts of sexual assault in the first degree (rape).

"I'm thoroughly ecstatic for my client. It was a heart-wrenching experience because he was looking at eight years minimum [imprisonment] and up to 30 years maximum if he was convicted," said Blodak's counsel, chief public defender Adam Hardwicke.

Hardwicke said he's very thankful and pleased that the jury considered both sides of the case and came back with the resounding not guilty.

The defense's argument was that it was consensual sex because Blodak and the alleged victim behaved like a couple.

"They were very close with each other. And it was only until she spoke to a detective that she said he was forcing her," Hardwicke said.

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher, who prosecuted the case, told *Saipan Tribune* that, while the Commonwealth is disappointed with the outcome, they appreciate the jury's and the court's hard work and attention to this matter.

Gallagher said they are also proud of the hard work of the officers and agents of the Department of Public Safety and the Office of the Attorney General.

"Regardless of the outcome in this case, the people of the Attorney General's Office will continue to work hard to protect the people of the CNMI," he said.

Allegation of sexual assault against Blodak arose after police investigated a complaint that Blodak's wife, Valeria Brel, beat up the victim on April 18, 2010, after catching her husband with the victim.

The alleged victim told police that Blodak sexually assaulted her eight times from December 2009 to April 2010—three times when she was intoxicated and five times when she was sober.

The defendant pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The trial began on Monday. The jurors began their deliberation Wednesday shortly after associate judge David A. Wiseman gave them instructions.

It was the OAG's second jury trial setback in two weeks. The first was also a rape case.

On Nov. 3, Superior Court jurors deliberated for less than an hour to reach a not guilty verdict against Paul H. Taitano on charges that he had raped his former common-law wife.

Tinian cop's co-defendant in 'ice' case gets 3-yr. probation

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The federal court handed down a three-year probation sentence against the co-defendant of a Tinian police officer who was caught selling methamphetamine or "ice."

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett required Carlos Palacios Aldan to participate in a substance abuse treatment program under the direction of the U.S. Probation Office.

Bennett ordered Aldan to perform 50 hours of community service and pay a $200 court assessment fee.

Aldan was also required to submit to a drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two more drug tests as directed by the U.S. Probation Office.

During Wednesday's hearing, assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto recommended a six-month home confinement sentence. Aldan's lawyer, Bruce Berline, pushed for a six-month home confinement or probation sentence.

Aldan, Tinian Police Officer I Gilbert Macaranas, and Tinian Mayor's Office's employee Henry M. San Nicolas, were arrested in May during a joint anti-meth operation conducted by Tinian police and Drug Enforcement Administration.

All defendants had pleaded guilty. Aldan pleaded guilty to two counts of distribution of a controlled substance.

On Tuesday, the court handed down a time-served sentence against San Nicolas, an employee of the Tinian Mayor's Office's Dog Control Program, who had been detained for 15 weeks.

Bennett placed the 35-year-old Nicolas on three years of supervised release.

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BON VOYAGE



Outgoing Hafadai Beach Hotel GM Takeshi Nishimura, third from left, receives a plaque of appreciation from the Marianas Visitors Authority for his contributions to Northern Marianas' tourism. The plaque was presented at the MVA Office in Saipan on Nov. 17, 2010. Pictured from left are MVA marketing specialist Hiroko Tenorio, new Hafadai Beach Hotel GM Akira Takaoka, Nishimura, MVA board treasurer Yoichi Matsumura, MVA managing director Perry Tenorio, and Hafadai Beach Hotel sales & marketing manager FujioYamada.

MVA

Teen gets 14 days for punching car, resisting arrest

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A teenager accused of punching the side door of a car and resisting arrest pleaded guilty to the charges and was sentenced to 14 days in prison.

Jack Esiwini Sachuo, 19, pleaded guilty to criminal mischief and disturbing the peace as part of a plea agreement.

Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Sachuo to 90 days in prison, all suspended except for 14 days, with credit for the 14 days he had already served in jail after his arrest. This means Sachuo will immediately go free.

He will, however, be placed on probation for a year and required to pay $170 in restitution to the victim, Jonathan Del Mundo Mendoza, for repairs to his damaged car.

Sachuo was also directed to pay a $25 court assessment fee and a $100 probation fee, to perform 50 hours of community service and write a letter of apology to Police Officer Catherine Pangelinan.

Sachuo was represented in the case by assistant public defender Douglas W. Hartig. Assistant attorney general Benjamin K. Petersburg represented the government.

The case arose from an incident on Aug. 20, 2010, when police responded to a report of a disturbance at 99 Cents Super Market in Garapan at 12:51am.

Police learned that Sachuo had approached a 2005 Toyota Matrix car that was parked at the store and punched the top portion of the driver's side door.

As Sachuo was walking away, Mendoza got down from the car and noticed a dent on the side door. He then called the police.

Sachuo was uncooperative and was shouting, cussing and threatening to beat up Police Officer Pangelinan. He kept swinging his arms, hitting the policewoman in the face.

Sachuo struggled with the other police officer, until another officer came and subdued the defendant.

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 19, 1999

USDA offers incentives program to farmers

The United States Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation service (USDA/NRCS) is now accepting applications for a program that will grant farmers of up to 75 percent of dollar share cost to help them address concerns on irrigation and animal waste. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program, which is being carried out in partnership with the Farm Service Agency and the local Soil And Water Conservation Districts, can be availed through the Commodity Credit Corporation. Only landowners who have control over their lands for a minimum of five years are qualified to apply for the program.

Scholarship fund fiasco: 'Don't blame the executive branch'

Northern Marianas College officials were informed a year ahead of the implementation of a policy eliminating financial aid to part-time students which took effect in August this year, according to the governor's special assistant for education. Defending the Scholarship's Office from criticisms over the policy, Dan Nielsen said the decision was reached in August 1998 as part of the administration's efforts to boost funding for other scholarship programs of the government. "Blaming us [now] is an outrage. The fault lies with the college, the financial office over there. They should have been counseling their students back in 1998 that this policy was taking effect," he told reporters yesterday.

Nov. 19, 2001

Test scheduled for PCB-treatment machine

The US Army Corps of Engineer has scheduled for testing the indirect thermal desorption machine that will be used for the treatment of some 20,000 tons of PCB-contaminated soil in Tanapag starting January. This, as a group of residents disclosed plans of mass demonstration to protest the on-site treatment of the PCB-laced soil. In a press statement, the ACOE said it will start testing the machine after Thanksgiving Day, which falls on November 22. Tanapag Action Group Chair Juan Tenorio said that they are planning to hold a peaceful demonstration this coming Friday, a day after Thanksgiving Day.

13th CNMI House ready for business

Transition committee chairman Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan confirmed Friday that the incoming House leadership, which is mostly Republican, has already chosen the chairmen of the different House committees but everything will be made official today. "Everything is simply unofficial. According to Public Law 3-53, it will be legally in existence after the certification. We would possibly come out with this on the 19th," said Pangelinan. The lawmakers pointed out that his committee is simply proposing a number of things at the moment "but with respect to the law, everything will be official [today]. Whatever we do will be official."

Nov. 19, 2002

GES addresses water woes

With the Division of Environmental Quality closing down its faucets since Thursday due to bacteria contamination, the Garapan Elementary School has managed to sustain water supply for its students and staff with resources offered by community members. This, as GES Vice Principal Boni Gomez yesterday assured that the school is expeditiously readying the necessary equipment to comply with the DEQ requirements, so it could resume regular water services to the campus. "The Mayor's Office came in and helped us install the water containers. The water inside the containers are provided by StaR Marianas--and that's potable-quality water where kids can wash their hands," said Gomez in an interview yesterday.

Govt owes CHC manpower agencies more than $500K

The CNMI government has been delayed-for almost three months now-in paying its contracted manpower agencies that supply nursing staff at the Commonwealth Health Center, prompting at least one of the companies to begin putting its staff on vacation. Juan T. Guerrero, president of Paras Enterprises, the longest serving staffing agency for the CHC, confirmed in an interview yesterday that the government owes his company some $400,000 or $500,000 to include all other outstanding fees with other government offices. "Well, I won't hide that they owe me money, plenty of money. This week, we had a payroll, so that makes it five payroll cycles. I haven't received payment from them," Guerrero said when asked about the issue.

NMI postmaster says 99 pct. of packages delivered OK

» About 9,000 packages received monthly; probe ongoing for missing netbooks

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

NMI postmaster Hector Medina said yesterday that 99 percent of all packages and items mailed to the Commonwealth are received and delivered in safe condition, describing as "rare" any incidences of missing or stolen mailed items.

This comes even as Medina confirmed that a complaint was lodged with his office on Wednesday involving a customer who lost two netbook laptops from a package that had been ordered online.

Rovel T. Caberos of Magic 100.3 FM had complained that the two netbook computers worth over $800 were missing from the boxes that were handed to him at the post office.

The items were purchased from the B&H online store and were shipped on Nov. 2. However, the local post office handed him a yellow card only on Nov. 17.

Caberos claimed that it takes only about 10 days at the most for B&H packages to arrive on the island and was suspicious when the delivery took longer than usual. When he opened the boxes at the post office, that's when he found out that the items were not inside, Caberos said.

Such thievery should not be tolerated, he added.

Medina said the matter has been reported to the inspector office in Guam for investigation. He said he also advised Caberos to apprise B&H about the situation.

"I was the one who accepted his box [Wednesday]…and the only thing we can do since the box wasn't insured, we advised him to call the company and let them know that he received the box without the content," explained Medina, adding if the items were insured the customer could file a claim with the company.

Medina said that Saipan's post office accommodates about 8,000 to 9,000 mail packages each month, with six employees that sort out thousands of mailed items and packages every day.

"Every month we go through thousands of packages over here on Saipan. Unfortunately, this thing happened to him… the only thing I can tell them is we don't know where it happened because of the travel distance from the States to Guam," he said, adding that the "theft" may have occurred anywhere between those places but not on Saipan.

Medina, who has been the postmaster for over two years now, described his employees as trustworthy and hard working.

"I want to assure the public that all the people we hired at our post office are hardworking and trustworthy. We're bound by our responsibility to protect the sanctity of the mail and our people here are doing an excellent job," he said.

Medina pointed out that post office personnel are strict in complying with rules such as confidentiality of mails and packages.

Medina said his office takes all complaints and concerns of its customers seriously.

CUC resets hours for Garapan outage

The power outage previously scheduled for tomorrow, Nov. 20, 2010, from 7:30am through 10:30am, in certain parts of Garapan has been rescheduled to start at 1pm through 4pm on the same day.

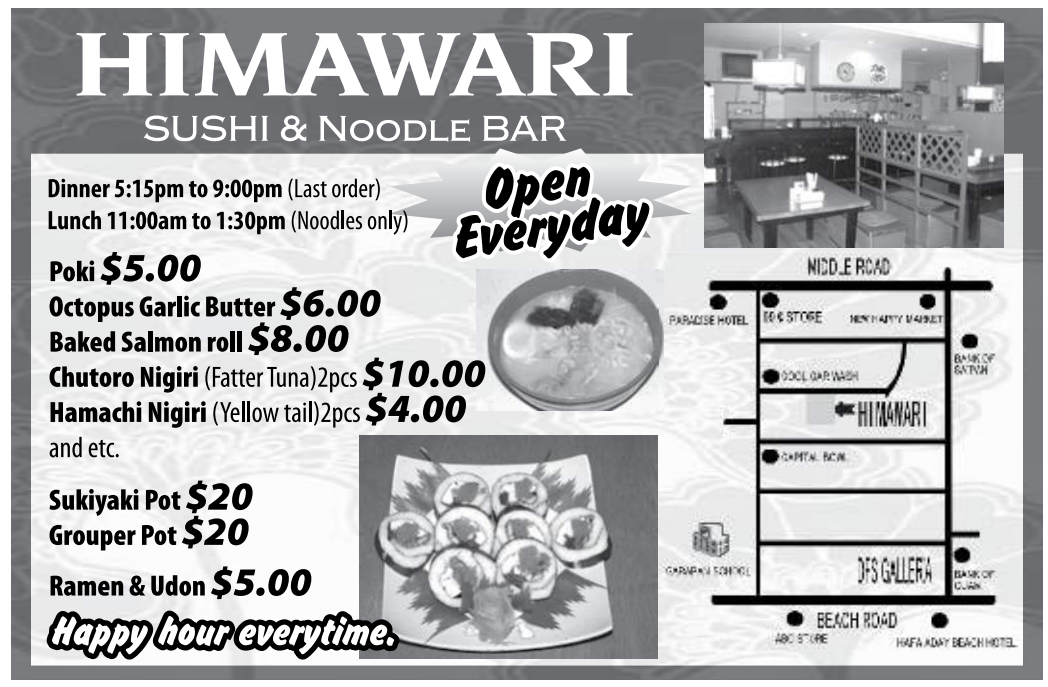
In a statement issued yesterday, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said the new schedule is due to uncontrollable circumstances.

The purpose of the outage is to ensure the safety of the linemen when they replace a rotten power pole on Rosa Steet in Garapan, CUC said.

The outage will affect Asusena Avenue, Casa Urashima Restaurant, Kristo Rai Church, Alaihai Avenue, Chamorro House Building 2, and the Torres Building.

The line crew will continue to perform ongoing maintenance to the electrical grid throughout the following weeks and the schedules will be announced accordingly.

"CUC apologizes for any inconvenience the power interruptions may cause and will continue to work diligently to minimize future interruptions," it said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***









Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

Airport security gets even more intrusive

If you ever travel by commercial airline, you know the drill: Provide ID, take off shoes, put change, keys and cell phones in the bin, and step through the metal detector. Like a bum knee, it's a pain, but one you've learned to deal with. Unfortunately, it's just gotten worse.

At many airports, the Transportation Security Administration in recent weeks has rolled out new imaging scanners that see through clothing—producing what privacy advocates refer to as a "virtual strip search."

If you don't like that option, you may choose another one, which you also may not like: a pat-down in which the agent will manually search your entire body, including breasts and groin. These will be used for regular screening, not merely "secondary" inspections of travelers who trigger suspicion.

The change is partly a response to the Christmas Day bomber, who hid powdered explosives in his underwear. There is no guarantee that either of the new procedures would have detected his contraband, yet the possibility that they would work apparently is enough for TSA.

But the government is meeting vocal opposition. Unions for pilots and flight attendants have objected to the scanners. "No pilot at American Airlines should subject themselves to the needless privacy invasion and potential health risks," Allied Pilots Association President David Bates told members. One man is calling for a National Opt-Out Day on Nov. 24, asking passengers to refuse the scanners, raising the prospect of huge backups on the day before Thanksgiving.

The pat-downs, however, may be even more unpleasant than the imaging machines. "You're not going to like it," a TSA agent told correspondent Jeffrey Goldberg of The Atlantic. "Nobody's going to do it once they find out (what) we're going to do."

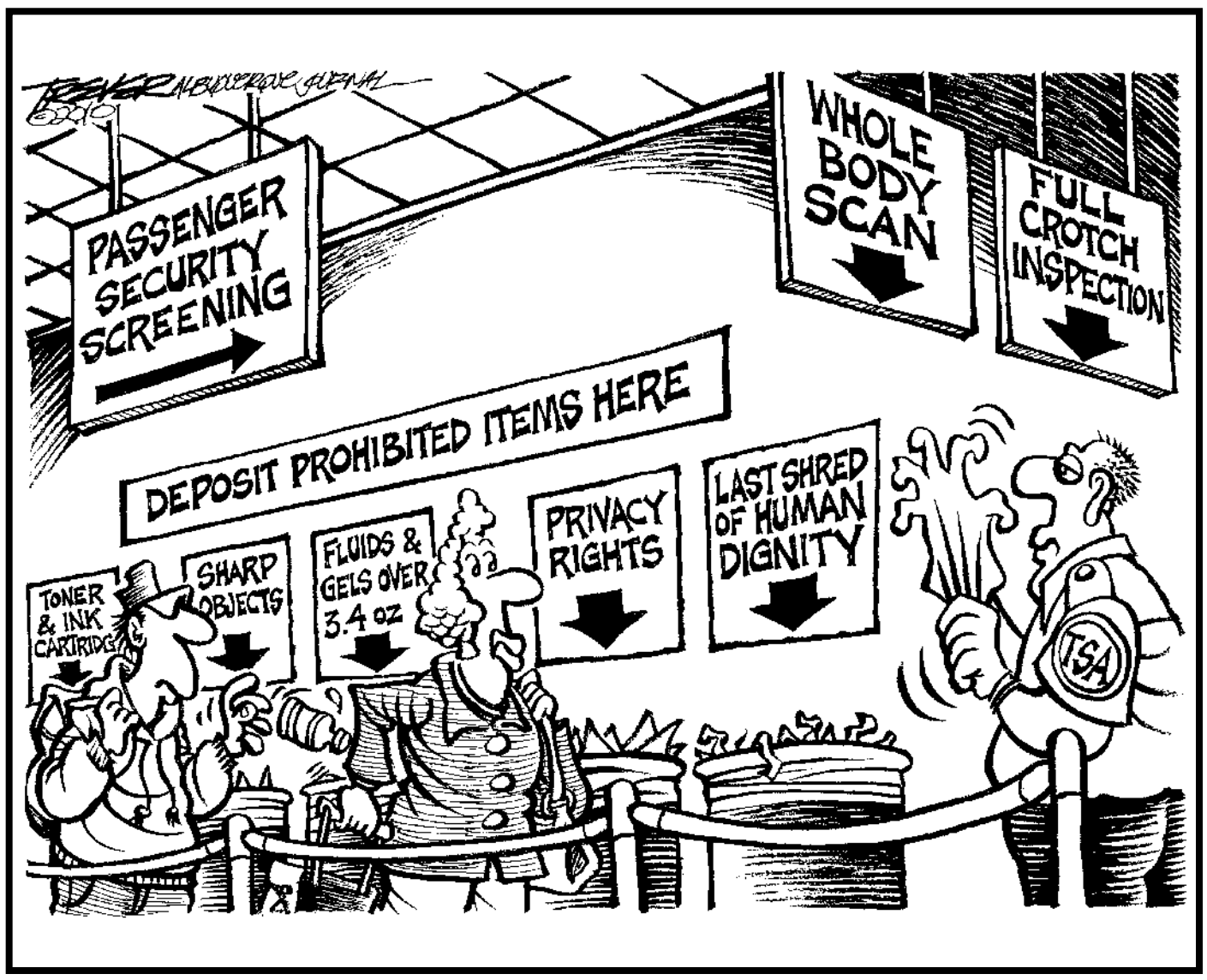
He might have been foreseeing John Tyner, of Oceanside, Calif., who was removed from San Diego International Airport the other day when he refused the scanner and then told a TSA agent, "If you touch my junk, I'll have you arrested."

The more intrusive approach might be defensible if it were a huge obstacle to terrorists. But a determined killer could wreak horrific damage in a busy airport by setting off a bomb at a ticket desk or in a security line. And neither the scanners nor the pat-downs would catch an al-Qaida operative who conceals a bomb in a body cavity—as one did last year before blowing himself up in an unsuccessful attempt to kill the head of counterterrorism for the government of Saudi Arabia.

Last year, the House of Representatives voted to bar the use of scanners for primary screening, and their expanded use may attract new attention on Capitol Hill. Congress and the Obama administration owe the public a reassessment to make sure the benefits of these methods are worth the high cost in privacy—and to make sure there are not other technologies that would be less invasive.

The federal government has an obligation to balance the de-

See AIRPORT on Next Page



Commodities, Part I: The Saipan Betel Nut Corp.



By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Tribune

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com.

As I noted in last week's column, the prices of many necessities are going up because the prices of the underlying commodities are going up. Commodities are going to be a big deal. Big on Saipan, and big everywhere else, too.

So I'd like to lay out the very basic idea of how they relate to buying, selling, business productivity, risk, investment, and uncertainty. And for an example, we'll consider our favorite commodity: betel nut!

We'll start on Saipan today. Next week: Hong Kong. After that: Back to Saipan, at a nightclub, of all places, where a mysterious lady in a black dress…oh, never mind, I don't want to get ahead of myself.

I'll note that any prices here are made up, I have no idea what betel nut really costs. And so we begin, dear Reader, with a letter you receive in today's mail...

■ ■ ■

Dear Reader:

We reviewed your resume in response to our ad in the *Saipan Tribune* seeking a president for the Saipan Betel Nut Corp. Congratulations! You have been selected for the job.

We need you to start immediately, so I'll bring you up to speed on our situation.

I'll start with the good news. After tending our betel nut trees carefully for the past few years, we are finally getting ready for our first harvest. I estimate that in a little over six months, June of 2011, we will have 100,000 pounds of betel nuts ready to go to market.

That's the good news.

Here's the bad news: We're broke.

Our expenses for fertilizer and labor have been higher than expected. Unless we can get some additional cash for our operations, we'll never survive to see our first harvest.

Our company is owned by 30 shareholders, but none of them are willing to contribute any more money to the venture, nor will they authorize the issuance of further shares to raise money. They were given overly rosy projections when they made their original investments. They have become impatient, even hostile.

The only other possible source of funds, then, is to borrow money. We lined up an investor from Tinian who seemed willing to loan us the $250,000 we need.

However, the investor is not convinced that we will make enough money to be able to pay him back. In order to be conservative, he requires that we forecast having twice the profitability (actually, cash flow, but we won't belabor the distinction) necessary to service the loan.

I took him on an inspection of our plantations. He shares our confidence that 100,000 pounds will be ready for market next June. But, still, we can't forecast our profits without knowing how much we can sell our betel nut for.

The Tinian investor has calculated that if we can sell the betel nut for $10 per pound, then we will meet his very stringent loan requirements. By way of context, prices of betel nut have been varying between $9 per pound as a low, to $12 per pound as a high.

I have calculated that we are profitable at any price over $7.90 per pound.

So, as you can see, at any reasonable price, we will be profitable! However, we will probably still go out of business, since we cannot guarantee that we'll get the necessary $10 a pound for our loan requirement. It's the price uncertainty that's causing our downfall.

We only have enough money on hand to last one more month. I fear that our employees will lose their jobs before Christmas.

I'll mention one last item: A Mr. Zhong, a buyer for the Hong Kong ABC Fortune 88 Lucky Betel Product Co., Ltd., will be visiting Saipan in a couple of weeks on a buying mission.

Things are so dire I don't really know how Mr. Zhong can help us, but perhaps you can talk him into loaning us the necessary money. After all, he knows the industry and might recognize our potential. It's our only hope.

Sincerely,

Milo Minderbinder
Chairman, Saipan Betel Nut Corp.

■ ■ ■

Ed's comment: As you can see, uncertainty can kill a business even if it is otherwise profitable. Uncertainty has a cost, even though it's not measured in dollars. See you next week for Part II.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor

Current states' VLT activities and social costs

Second part of a series

Video lottery terminals, or VLTs, including video slot machines and video poker, are prevalent in more than one-half of the states. They generate varying degrees of revenue depending on location, type of machine, frequency of use, frequency of machine turnover, popularity of the game, and level of competition from other VLT establishments.

For instance, Delaware has over 5,300 machines (at racetracks) that generate over $535 million annually. Their "payout" rate ranges from 87 to 95 percent, which simply means that for every dollar put in, 87 cents to 95 cents is returned to the player. *Most* machines are calibrated to allow between 75 percent and 98 percent "payout" with an average around 92 percent (usually depending on competition).

The distribution of VLT revenue (what's left over after the payout) varies widely from state to state, but most averages are as follows: The state gets 20 to 60 percent; the operator gets 40 to 80 percent; and the central machine vendors get 5 to 10 percent. In some cases, there are other authorized benefactors. Usually about 5 percent is for administrative costs and maintenance. In Nevada, approximately 7 percent of gross machine proceeds are paid to the state as "taxes" and a small yearly fee for each machine, around $250. After a "payout" to the player of around 85 percent (of the gross "input"); the rest is for the operator or owner, around 8 percent (of the gross input).

Social costs are the negative impacts to society resulting from individuals who have trouble controlling their gambling. Some of these are adverse health and family impacts, crime, employer costs, and government expenditures. There may be increased rates of domestic violence, child neglect and abuse and divorce. There may be increased physical and mental health problems as well as increased suicide rates. Employer costs may include absenteeism, lost productivity, and increased unemployment related costs. Government expenditures include gaming regulatory costs. There may be other costs such as increased rates of bankruptcy for gamblers and unpaid gambling debts.

Benefits may include increased economic development and job creation, increased tax revenue and enhanced recreational opportunities.

Since "slots" already exist in the Commonwealth, so do the abovementioned costs and benefits. Thus the addition of 750 *new* gaming machines, supposedly introducing a new type of gambling, will probably add even more social costs above existing levels—and it's not likely to increase benefits either! (We'll take a look at why in part 3)

The National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences estimated national prevalence rates for different classifications of gamblers. "Problem" gambling is rated at about 3.9 percent of the adult population. This compares with drug abuse at 6.2 percent and alcoholism at 13.8 percent.

Comorbidity: Here's a new term for all to learn. It refers to the problem that pathological gamblers often have co-occurring with addictions or mental health problems. The General Accounting Office, in a report in 2000, reported that "pathological gambling in many cases (up to an estimated 78 percent) is accompanied by other disorders and it is difficult to determine whether gambling is the only or the primary factor causing problems."

In most states that have studied this and "netted" out social costs versus benefits, it has been found that these costs on *average* are about one half of the revenue generated by gambling. That is, for every dollar in revenue, there is a distinguishable *cost* of about 45 to 50 cents. Thus, the "state" in which VLT activities are proposed must first determine how much of the likely revenue generated must be remitted to the "state" (in fees and/or taxes) in order to "offset" probable losses due to the cost imposed upon it through the effects of the activity; *and* pro-rate that cost with costs attributed to all other forms of gambling allowed in the "state"; *and* still have enough left-over gambling revenue to support any programs instituted (or continued) for which money is required such as education or medical needs (which are usually the selling points used in order to allow or justify gambling in the first place). Has the CNMI incorporated *this* into its proposal to allow VLT gambling?

On top of this, the use of percentages by proponents to tout the generated revenues of added machines are nothing more than a "cute" way of avoiding real data. If, because of competition, the payout is increased to say 95 percent (it is in some areas), that leaves only 5 cents of every dollar spent for *all* benefactors (the state, operator, programs, etc.). By saying the state will get, say, 40 percent of revenue sounds good, but the actual amount realized is only something like 2 cents for every dollar spent—which is *less* than the state could have realized had that same dollar been spent on a reasonably taxed commercial purchase. Has the CNMI considered this "offset" loss?

In our next installment, we'll look at the CNMI's revenue potential and how it relates to "cross-border" activity and "substitution" effects.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
San Jose, Tinian

We need a new Legislature

It seems that the only thing on the minds of the members of the Legislature are gambling and drugs. They are willing to sell our souls for money. Sorry, mine is not for sale. If they had done their jobs 10 years ago we would not be in this mess now. Anyone who understands business knew that when President Clinton signed the NAFTA trade treaty that the garment factories were dead. What did the Legislature do? They gave them every tax break in the book. If they had taxed them the way they should have, we would have had millions more dollars in the general fund. Instead the money left the island in the pockets of the garment owners.

Not only did they not tax them; they made no attempt to find new revenue to replace them. For 10 years they kept right on spending money like they had a never-ending supply. Well now it has caught up with them. Now they want to cut the workers' hours to cover their lack of action.

So what else do they want to do? They want to turn Saipan into the sin capital of the Pacific. They want to bring in gambling and drugs. Do they have so little regard for the rest of us? They have done no studies on what the true financial gain is really going to be. How about how much money we are going to lose in federal aid? All they do is talk about all the wonderful things they are going to do for the island. I say it is nothing but a lot of hot air; an attempt to con the residents into falling for their attempt to serve the special interest groups that they are really working for.

I do not think that residents of the islands realize that every dime they make on drugs and gambling is going to come out of the pockets of local residents. Just look at what is going on with the poker machines. I say enough is enough. Each and every one of you should call your elected members of the Legislature. Tell them what you really want them to do. Then, come next election, we need to get former representative Tina Sablan back in the Legislature. Then vote in some new lawmakers who will work for the residents of the islands, not the special interest groups. If I am wrong and people want drugs and gambling, let's go all the way and legalize prostitution, too. We all know that they will make money and they will be a lot easier to collect taxes from.

But rather than pass a bunch of new bad laws, why do they not enforce the laws that we already have? Over a third of the cars on the island have expired tabs on them. Let's force them to get inspected and update their tabs and insurance. It is not fair to those of us who follow the law to be put at risk by those who do not follow the law. Go after the businesses that do not give you receipts when you make a purchase. That way they do not have to report the sale. Those two items would bring in a fair amount of revenue. Then you could go after all the money that Mr. Pellegrino has written about. Boy, would that shake things up.

Frederick Prosser
As Matuis, Saipan

The devil is winning

The people in the CNMI are living just like the devil wants us to live: in a state of dismay with a dim unsure future, the promotion of prejudice and even hatred toward fellow citizens and foreigners, corruption at every level of the government, an economy that is dying, and a government that has no real plan to revitalize our economy. What makes it worse is our leaders are doing their best to force people to accept casinos as their only salvation!

MVA has done its job and come up with a plan to revitalize our tourist industry but the government has failed to respond because the powers that be want casinos and they don't care how much we have to suffer to make it happen. Citizens and the Senate have told the lower House no to casinos *three times* and yet they keep trying to force it down our throats. The sad part is the leaders who are promoting casinos have flat out refused to tell people who is the investor that wants to build casinos. Why all the secrecy when our future and quality of life is at stake? The secrecy is proof that some of our leaders have made backroom deals and can't be trusted to respect the decision of the people.

The leaders behind the casinos must know in their heart that they are morally wrong yet they continue to work for the devil for obvious personal financial gain. Refusing to help MVA and forcing people to continue suffering is just part of the plan to bring us down to the point that we will accept casinos, which I can only view as the work of the devil.

But there is hope as the Legislature is starting to change because good always overcomes evil in the end. The speaker is now teetering on finally giving up and thank God for that. The demand by Rep. Benavente to give MVA the financial support they need should help to wake up and rally the government and community to support MVA. The passage of legislation to have an elected AG will surely change the dynamics of the executive office and hold that vital branch of our government more accountable!

But the truly great thing is the fact that God is in this too and if you know anything about God you know that he doesn't always show up when we want but he is there when most needed. This is why I keep saying that divine intervention may be our only hope for finding prosperity in the CNMI because we the people keep letting the devil win battles that he shouldn't be winning. As governed society *of, for and by the people* it all starts in the voting booth which determines the end results that we can see in our quality of life, paychecks, job opportunities or the lack thereof, hope or the lack of hope, a united people or the creation of more division, economic prosperity or the doom and gloom we presently face.

One day it will sink in that God is in this to and that it is only right that all citizens are treated equally and all citizens have a voice in the CNMI because success, unity, harmony and prosperity have no demarcation line of color or race. *We will all find prosperity together or not at all.* In fact, the diversity of the CNMI is one of our biggest attributes if locals can learn to exploit and use this diversity to advantage instead of using it to create issues of racism, discrimination and controversy. The devil has won too many battles lately and we must work to change the phenomena.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Welcome casino

In the past, I was one of those who went against this casino bill because my family caused me lots of problems; they were addicted to poker machines. Sometimes, I missed my payments on my CUC bill and loan. But last week, I read in the news that the casino bill will be a big benefit for the people. There will be $200,000 from license fees alone, not to mention the additional employees and buildings for rent if this casino bill is approved.

Our economy is at the bottom of the Bell curve and there is no sign that it will take an upswing. There is no sign of investors willing to put their money here. We have nothing to offer them except our land, sun, and sand. La Fiesta is the next best thing to offer. Or offer casino investors land in San Juan behind the hill or Marpi where the old Hilbloom complex used to be. But right now, the best place to locate it is the La Fiesta complex in San Roque across the former Nikko Hotel, so that the abandoned buildings will re-open for business. Saipan will become the "Las Vegas" of the Pacific for tourists from Asia. I suggest that those with low income be not allowed to play in the casino.

Teddy Guiao
Navy Hill, Saipan

AIRPORT

From Page 10

mands of public safety with the freedom and dignity of individual citizens who have done nothing wrong. Right now, the latter goal has gotten short shrift. But once millions of travelers get a taste of the new way, that may change.

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

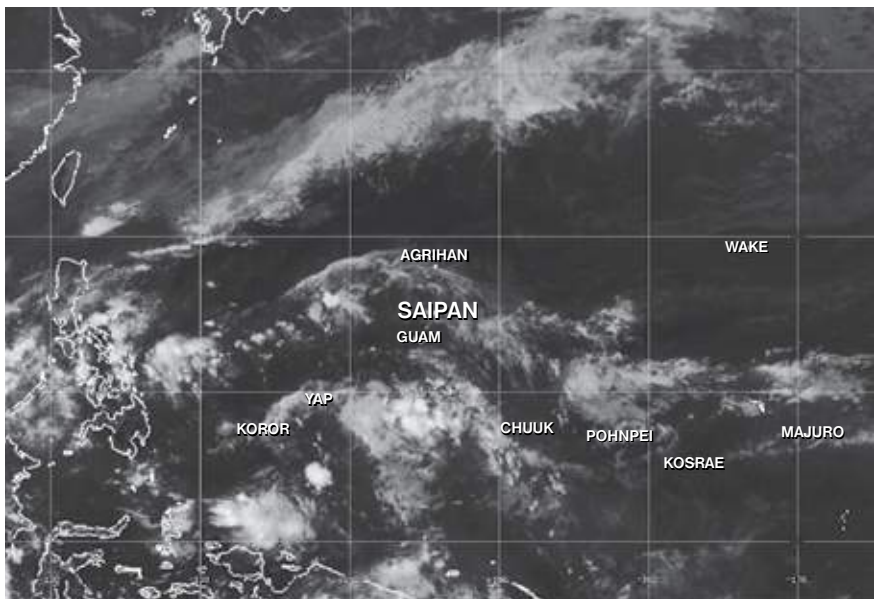
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲83	▼77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼72
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼75

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲70	▼62
Beijing	Sunny	▲57	▼33
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲80	▼69
Honolulu	Showers	▲81	▼72
London	Showers	▲50	▼41
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲74	▼51
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼79
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼46
Miami	Showers	▲84	▼65
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲57	▼37
Osaka	Sunny	▲59	▼51
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲50	▼42
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼48
Rome	Showers	▲63	▼49
Salem	Showers	▲47	▼38
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲64	▼51
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲52	▼39
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼51
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼39

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A stationary front runs northeastward from 19N130E to beyond 24N145E. Cloudiness with scattered showers are within 300 miles northwest of the front. The remnants of a shear line extend eastward from 15N136E to 15N141E then continue east of Guam at 14N148E to end beyond 19N180. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are within 70 miles of a line from 15N136E to 15N141E while scattered showers are found within 75 miles of the shear line east of 13N148E to 15N160E. A near-equatorial trough extends eastward from 4N130E through a weak circulation centered south of Koror at 4N133E then continues to 2N143E where it continues northeastward to end west of Chuuk near 9N147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between the equator and 3N from 133E to 138E in convergent winds between 6N and 9N from east of Yap at 140E to west of Chuuk at 151E. Scattered showers are also located north of Pohnpei and Kwajalein within 80 miles of a line from 11N155E to 11N172E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:00 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
6:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:55 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
5:21 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM
Monday	6:22 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:44 PM	3:53 AM
Saturday	4:27 PM	4:44 AM
Sunday	5:14 PM	5:37 AM
Monday	6:05 PM	6:33 AM
Tuesday	7:01 PM	7:30 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	2:45am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT
C09313/933	7:55am	9:40pm	6 via GUM
C09313/893	7:55am	11:00pm	3 via GUM-Palau
C09603/933	3:05pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	11:00pm	5 via GUM-Palau
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ606/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ606/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/286	7:55am	8:25pm	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM-Palau
C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 5, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:50am+1	4 via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

PAYLESS SUPERMARKET

OPEN 24 HOURS DAILY

WEEKEND SALE!

NOVEMBER 19, 2010 • FRIDAY

WE ACCEPT FOODSTAMPS

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Royal Jasmine Rice 50 LBS. LIMIT 1 — $22.99

Diamond G Rice 20 LBS. LIMIT 1 — $11.99

Icis Water 20X500ML. — $4.50 /PACK

READY TO COOK MIXED VEGETABLES

Chopsuey — $1.99 /PACK

Sinigang Nilaga — $1.79 $1.50

Pancit — $1.50 /PACK

Pakbet — $1.79 /PACK

U.S. PRODUCE

Brocolli — $1.99 LB.

Green Bellpeper — $1.49 LB.

Red Bellpeper — $2.29 LB.

Yellow Onions — 69¢ LB.

Potato — 79¢ LB.

Celery — 99¢ LB.

Green Cabbage — 89¢ LB.

Lettuce Cello — $1.39 LB.

Cauliflower — $1.29 LB.

Chinese Cabbage — 89¢ LB.

Jumbo Carrots — 89¢ LB.

Cantaloupe — $1.29 LB.

Honeydew — $1.09 LB.

Orange — 89¢ LB.

Fuji Apple — $1.59 LB.

Grapes — $1.99 LB.

KOREAN PRODUCE

Korean Apple — $1.99 LB.

Korean Cabbage — $1.19 LB.

Hasen Jung Kimchi — $39.95 10KG.

Korean Pear — $1.99 LB.

Korean Raddish — $1.39 LB.

Chung Soul Kimchi — $32.95 10KG.

SEAFOODS • GROCERIES • BEVERAGES

Oil Fish Sliced — $3.50 LB.

Vega Shrimp — $4.99 PKG.

Sea Wave Calamari — $1.99 PKG.

Leg Quarter #33 — $20.79 CS.

Leg Quarter #22 — $15.79 CS.

Pork Babyribs #10 — $19.49 CS.

Pork Spareribs #20 — $21.99 CS.

Saan Soju — $28.00 CS.

Chum-Churum — $28.00 CS.

OB Beer — $16.95 CS.

Cass Beer — $16.95 CS.

Sashimi — $6.99 LB.

Sam Da Soo Water 500 ML.

Sam Da Soo Water 2 LITER

Sugar — BROWN / WHITE

Maxwell House Coffee Mix — 240g 20 sticks; 600g 50 sticks; 1.2 kg. 100 sticks

Lotte Choco Pie — 6 PACKS / 12 PACKS

Bear Flour

Pita Bread — $2.29

Nong Shim Noodles — 69¢ EA.

Butane Gas — $19.99 CS.

Town House SHOPPING CENTER

Ladies Dress NEW ARRIVAL — $12.00 - $15.00

Boy's T-Shirt NEW ARRIVAL — 3 for $10.00

Assorted Hair Accessories — 99¢ - $9.99

Big Blouse NEW ARRIVAL — 2 for $18.00 1 for $9.99

Men's Shorts — 2 for $18.00

Kids Blouse — 3 for $10.00

Ladies Bra NEW ARRIVAL — $3.99 - $5.99

TV Stand — NOW $119.99

Shoe Cabinet — ON SALE

Dining Tables — ON SALE

Household Item at low price — 99¢-$5.49

Assorted Ladies & Men's Short NEW ARRIVAL — 3 for $10.00

Ladies Blouse NEW ARRIVAL — 2 for $18.00 1 for $9.99

Men's Long Pants — $12.00 - $14.00

Ladies Sandals NEW ARRIVAL — $10.00 - $12.00

Ladies Pants NEW ARRIVAL — 2 for $18.00

Computer Table — ON SALE

Korean Bed — Single ~~$399.99~~ $329.99; Double ~~$549.99~~ $449.99; Queen Size ~~$599.99~~ $499.99

Assorted Christmas Ornaments — LOW PRICE

Christmas Trees — 3' $4.99; 5' $30.99

Christmas Lights — $5.99 - $9.99

Assorted Garland — $1.29 - $1.99

Jergens Lotion — 3 FOR $7.00 10 fl.oz. $3.69 ea. 16.8 fl.oz. $4.19 ea. 21 fl.oz.

P.O. Box 502651 Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel. # 670-234-8009 • Fax # 670-234-5358 PRICES CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Online radio station BetelnutRadio hits the Web



Betelnut Radio (betelnutradio.com), the first online radio station that caters to Chamorro, Carolinian, Hawaiian, reggae, and Palauan musical styles, was officially launched in October 2010, according to a statement issued yesterday.

Betelnut Radio was started with a simple premise: To bring local indigenous music and memories to the world. The idea actually came from a friend posting on Facebook wishing there was a streaming music station for local music.

ON THE NET
BetelnutRadio.com

Betelnut Radio was formed by Frank "Kiko" Oliver, PJ Camacho and David Dlg. Atalig in August 2010. Musical collections were sorted through and playlists were generated based on the listening desires of hundreds of friends and family members throughout the world. Eventually, songs were chosen, servers were purchased, and the airways were filled with the songs of the islands.

The great sounds of Betelnut Radio are delivered via any desktop, laptop or mobile device.

"We even have an Apple iPhone/iTouch app you can download for free and start listening right away as long as you have Internet access. In addition, we stream at 64kbps so you do not need a super high-speed connection. For the very first time, a truly "Marianas/Micronesian" themed radio station was created for the people of the islands and the thousands living all over the world," the statement says.

Initial feedback from the station has proven highly positive. Betelnut radio is currently averaging 200 hits per day and reached 6,985 since its inception to date. Users have tuned in from the U.S. mainland, the CNMI, Guam, the Philippines, Germany, Italy, France, Canada, Japan, China, South Korea, Bahrain and many other countries.

The three behind BetelnutRadio:

Frank "Kiko" Oliver moved to the island of Saipan at the age of 4. He moved back to the mainland for high school. After high school Kiko moved back to Saipan on his own at 17. He worked as a music teacher with the public school system at Hopwood Junior High. Some years later he worked full time as a DJ with KRSI Hot 98 FM. Due to the economic hardships of the island, Kiko moved his family (married to a Chamorro girl, Daisy Camacho-Oliver, with two young daughters) to Lake Havasu, Arizona, where he currently resides. Kiko, who is now 41, currently runs his own business producing commercials for radio stations across the U.S.

PJ Camacho (Philip Joseph) was born and raised on the island of Saipan after moving to the mainland at age 13 to San Antonio, Texas. He spent a couple years in Texas then moved to Phoenix, Arizona, on his sophomore year in high school. PJ was active in many physical sports in high school including football, baseball, wrestling, and track & field. After graduating high school he moved to Lake Havasu City, Arizona, and interned for Maddog Wireless Radio Stations/Murphy Broadcasting for six weeks after getting the Program Director position at age 18. He spent the last year working for the radio stations in Lake Havasu, recording his music, and playing live shows around town. It wasn't until a few months ago that Kiko approached him with the idea of Betelnut Radio and asked him to work with the website, music acquisitions, and promotion. PJ currently handles the web content of BetelnutRadio while still working with Maddog Wireless radio stations, and his music.

David Dlg. Atalig, 40, was born in Guam but raised on Saipan. David left Saipan to go to school in San Diego for high school and college. He graduated from the University of San Diego in 1992 with a BS in Finance and Management. Shortly after, David moved back to Saipan where he has worked mainly in the field of finance for the CNMI government and at the Northern Marianas College. In 2007, David accepted a fiscal officer position at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon and relocated his family there. David is married to Doris Ann Hocog Aldan and has four children. David became involved with Betelnut Radio when Kiko inquired about his music collection. David is now in charge of all the sales and advertising of Betelnut Radio while still working with Portland State University. ***(PR)***

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#3,#5,#7,#8 REBAR $770.00/ST
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40%OFF FOR OVERSIZED AND DAMAGED MAHOGANY LUMBER
U.S. LUMBER
2X4X20 REGULAR: $7.40
2X4X20 TREATED: $12.00

UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR	UTILITY LUMBER TREATED
2X4X12 - $4.15	2X4X12 - $5.90
2X4X14 - $4.65	2X4X14 - $6.50
2X4X16 - $5.70	2X4X16 - $7.70
2X4X18 - $6.30	2X4X18 - $8.70
2X4X20 - $6.80	2X4X20 - $9.60
2X6X12 - $6.70	2X6X12 - $7.90
2X6X14 - $7.60	2X6X14 - $11.00
2X6X16 - $8.90	2X6X16 - $10.30
2X6X18 - $9.90	2X6X18 - $14.50
2X6X20 - $10.90	2X6X20 - $12.00

5/8" FLYFORM:	$25.90/PC
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WIRE MESH 7'*100':	$117.00

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* Ford Ranger total price $17,995 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 10.25% APR for 60 monthly payments of $307.62 or $142 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price $18,457.20. Documentation fees and registration not included.
Ford
Feel the difference

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Saipan Industrial Gas loses tools to burglar(s)

Crime Stoppers is seeking the community's help for information on a burglary and theft incident that occurred at the Saipan Industrial Gas Inc. in Lower Base.

The gas company was burglarized twice last week. The first incident occurred on Wednesday, Nov. 10, followed by the second one the next day, Nov. 11, 2010.

The burglaries were committed while the office was closed. The suspect(s) broke into the office either late at night or during the early morning hours.

The suspect(s) were able to steal over $1,500 worth of tools that included a car jack, bush cutter, Black & Decker sander; Black & Decker paint sprayer, a Makita drill set, some beer, sodas, snacks, and a black Nokia cell phone.

The next night, suspects broke again into Saipan Industrial Gas, this time stealing a car battery and an adjustable wrench.

DPS and Crime Stoppers are seeking help from the public. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 or visit its website at www.nmicrimestoppers.com. Crime stoppers pays up to $1,000.00 for any information leading to an arrest.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy sweet 16th birthday to Peachy Quitugua! We love you, and we pray that you will enjoy your day!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





Happy one month to Joey Claude Borja Mostales, who turns a month old today, Nov. 19. We love you very much! Love, mommy and daddy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CRM gets funding to upgrade its permit application system

The CNMI Coastal Resources Management office was recently awarded a competitive grant funding that will allow for the creation of a state-of-the-art permit tracking system and lessen the red tape associated with securing permits from the office.

In a statement issued yesterday by the Office of the Governor, it said the tracking system will serve to improve organization within CRM and between regulatory agencies and the public.

"We are always trying to make the permit process less problematic for our applicants. With the new system, applicants will receive a login name and password and will be able to track the status of their permit throughout the process," says CRM administrator Rita C. Chong.

CRM submitted its project proposal, titled "Modernizing and Improving State Coastal Zone Management Information Systems," to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in early June and received word of its success last month.

CRM has long hoped to secure funding of this sort to update their outdated paper permit system to an online, user-friendly database.

"Currently permit applicants have to physically come to the CRM office, often more than once, to secure a permit," said Chong. "The new system will allow for all applications to be submitted online, which permit managers expect will make for a more transparent and streamlined process."

CRM expects the system to be online for public use by mid-2011, though a scaled-down version may be available for use as early as February 2011. "CRM personnel have worked long and hard to plan this project and secure the funding necessary for implementation. We're very excited to finally move forward," said Chong.

The funding will also provide for digitization of all CRM paper files related to permits and enforcement, and for updated database and scanning hardware.

The Office of the Governor did not indicate the amount of the grant. ***(Office of the Governor)***





COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber seminar today on FLSA compliance issues

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host today, Nov. 19, a seminar presented by Patrick Candoleta, assistant district director for the Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor, on Fair Labor Standards Act compliance issues. The seminar will be at Pacific Islands Club. Registration will begin at 10am and the seminar will begin at 10:30am and will run until approximately noon. Buffet lunch is included. The cost is $20 per person for members, $30 per person for non-members. Call the Chamber office (233-7150) or email coordinator@saipanchamber.com to make reservations. ***(SCC)***

KagES early dismissal today

Students of Kagman Elementary School will be dismissed early today, Nov. 19, 2010, at 12pm, to make way for the school's 1st Quarter report card distribution to parents and guardians from 1:30pm to 4:30pm in the children's respective homeroom teacher's classroom. ***(PR)***

Open auditions today for FoA production

Friends of the Arts will hold open auditions for *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. Auditions are open to the general public, and will be held today, Nov. 19, 6pm – 8pm, and Nov. 20, 3pm – 5pm at Hal Easton's classroom at Marianas High School: D-102. All ages welcome to audition. For more information, contact Frank Gibson at flgibson@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Kagman High School early dismissal

Kagman High School will be dismissing its students early on Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2010, for the school's First Quarter Report Card distribution. Students will be dismissed at 12pm, while the report card distribution is from 4:30pm to 6pm. First period teachers will be distributing from their classrooms. For more information, call 237-3840 e-mail kagmanhs@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Attention all military family members

Operation Homefront Support will be mailing out holiday care packages next week. If you want your soldier to receive a package free of charge, we need their address. Please send us their information immediately to homefront@pticom.com or call the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter at 234-3459. ***(PR)***

1 Tinian beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged the Unai Babui beach on Tinian and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified. DEQ said that samples collected from this location had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 10 sites on Tinian. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Tricare town hall meeting set

This is to inform all Tricare beneficiaries and providers that there will be a town hall meeting on Saipan on Nov. 19-21. On Friday, Nov. 19, Alysha Pacheco from the Tricare Pacific office will be conducting training at 10am for Tricare providers in the CNMI at the Army Reserve Center. On Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 20-21, the town hall will be held at the American Memorial Park Museum and is open to all Tricare beneficiaries. Pacheco will be available after each town hall for those needing one-on-one assistance. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Henry Pangelinan at 322-4167 or email henry.pangelinan1@us.army.mil. ***(PR)***

MRCDC sets meeting/teleconference

The Marianas Resource Conservation and Development Council will hold an executive committee meeting/teleconference in Guam, Saipan, and Tinian on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 23, from 5pm to 6pm. The public is invited. For island-specific location information or special accommodation for disability call (671) 472-7447. ***(PR)***

New medical director on Marianas Agupa

This Saturday, Nov. 20, 2010, Marianas Agupa will feature Dr. Shirish Balachandra and Ed Diaz from the Department of Public Health, from 10am to 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM. Topic of discussion will be the ongoing flu awareness campaign. The Chamorro Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. ***(PR)***

New schedule for MLSC visits to Rota, Tinian

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. attorney Dimitri Varmazis will be on Rota on:

- Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2010
- Thursday, Dec. 16, 2010 and
- Thursday, Dec. 23, 2010.

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. attorney Linda Wingenbach will be at the MLSC office at the PM Building on Tinian on:

- Friday, Nov. 19, 2010
- Thursday, Dec. 2, 2010 and
- Friday, Dec. 17, 2010.

Those on Rota and Tinian who want MLSC help may call the Saipan office (670-234-6243) for an appointment or walk-in and be served on a first-come/first-served basis on the dates of their visits. ***(PR)***

Eucon student body to host sacred music concert tomorrow

The Eucon International College Student Body will hold a sacred music concert on Saturday, Nov. 20, 2010, at the Agape Auditorium (facing the front gate) at 6pm. Tickets ($5.00 each) are available at 234-3203/7 or any college students. It will also be available at the entrance on concert day. The concert is part of the student body's fundraising activities. ***(PR)***

NICK S. RAMON
FRANCES S. RAMON
As Lito
P.O. Box 500414, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-5373

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF: SAGE FRANCES RAMON VILLAGOMEZ,	**FCD-AD Civil Action No. 10-0542**
A Minor Child	**NOTICE OF HEARING**
BY: NICK S. RAMON and FRANCES S. RAMON	
Petitioners.	

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Adoption for the above-named minor child, to wit: SAGE FRANCES RAMON VILLAGOMEZ, by NICK S. RAMON and FRANCES S. RAMON, as Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Court and is open for review at the Office of the Clerk of Court of said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. A hearing on the said Petition for Adoption will be held at the above-entitled Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, CNMI on November 30, 2010 at 9:00am or as soon as thereafter.

Any person who has any objection to this petition may file such objections with the Superior Court at any time before the hearing or may appear at the time set for hearing to present such objections or interest in this matter.

Dated this 8th of November, 2010.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Melinda M. Rogolifoi
P.O. Box 501533
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: No: 483-0540

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF: GAVIN ZANDER METTAO ROGOLIFOI	FCD AD NO. 10-0553
Minor Child	**NOTICE OF HEARING**
By:	
MELINDA M. ROGOLIFOI Petitioner	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on December 2, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 8th day of November, 2010.

Bernadita a. Sablan
Clerk of Court

By: /s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

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November 19-28, 2010

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OX AND PALM CORNED BEEF 11OZ. **$2.59**

LIBBY'S VIENNA SAUSAGE (CHICKEN, BEEF & PORK) 90Z **$1.39**

LIBBY'S VIENNA SAUSAGE (CHICKEN, BEEF & PORK) 50Z **69¢**

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WHOLE CHICKEN IN CAN 50 OZ. **$5.29**

YOURS LEMON POWDER 5.29 OZ. **$4.99**

KIMCHEE BASE 450 GRAMS **$5.99**

VLASIC DILL 1 GAL. **$6.99**

DELMONTE SPAGHETTI SAUCE 26 OZ. ALL KINDS **$1.69**

GOLD MEDAL FLOUR 5 LBS. **$3.29**

LIGO SARDINES IN TOMATO SAUCE (REGULAR OR WITH CHILI) 5.5 OZ 3 FOR **$1.00**

HORMEL CHILI NO BEANS 15OZ. **$1.99**

DINTY MOORE MEATBALL STEW W/ FRESH POTATOES/ CARROTS 15OZ. **$1.69**

CAMPBELLS CONDENSED CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP 10 ¾ OZ. **99¢**

MASTER A1 LIGHT MEAT TUNA (FANCY, REGULAR OIL) 7 OZ. **99¢**

HORMEL MARY KITCHEN CORNED BEEF HASH HOME STYLE 15OZ **$1.99**

DEL MONTE FIESTA FRUIT COCKTAIL IN SYRUP 3.62 KG. **$4.99**

KIKKOMAN SOY SAUCE 1/6 LTR. **$3.99**

MAXWELL HOUSE ORIGINAL ROAST MEDIUM 34.5 OZ **$7.99**

FOLGER INSTANT COFFEE 12OZ. **$8.99**

FOLGER CLASSIC ROAST 33.90 OZ **$9.99**

NESTLE COFFEEMATE ORIGINAL 50 OZ. **$9.99**

CARNATION EVAPORATED CREAMER 370 ML. **99¢**

MORTON SALT 1 LB. **79¢**

GOLDEN STATE WHITE DISTILLED VINEGAR 1 GAL. **$3.69**

NONGSHIM PICANTE BOWL NOODLE HOT & SPICY FLAVOR **$7.99**

SAPPORO ICHIBAN ORIGINAL 21/3.5 OZ. **$8.99**

ROYAL SPAGHETTI 1 KG. **$2.49**

TANG ORANGE MIX 22 QRT. 4LBS. **$9.99**

LIPTON TEA **$7.99**

AVO VEGETABLE OIL 1 GAL. **$7.99**

FRESCO VEGETABLE OIL 1 GAL. **$7.99**

FILMA COOKING OIL 2 LITER **$3.99**

KELLOGG'S TRI–FUN PACK 58 OZ. **$12.99**

KELLOGG'S FROSTED FLAKES 17 OZ **$3.49**

KELLOGG'S COCOA KRISPIES CEREAL 16.5 OZ. **$4.99**

KELLOGG'S APPLE JACKS CEREAL 12.2. OZ. **$3.49**

CHICKEN LEG QUARTER 33 LBS.	$19.99
CHICKEN LEG QUARTER 22 LBS.	$14.99
WHOLE CHICKEN 30 LBS/CASE	$35.99
PORK SPARERIBS 20 LBS.	$21.50
PORK BABY RIBS 10 LBS.	$18.99
PEPSI 12 OZ. CAN / CASE	$14.99
SOYBEAN SALAD OIL 5 GAL.	$25.99
HITE BEEER 12 OZ CAN / CASE	$16.99
SUAVE SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER 15 OZ.	2 FOR $3.00
SUNKIST SLIM PACK (ALL FLAVOR)	$6.99/CASE
PORK SPARERIBS - FAMILY BAG	$5.99
PORK CHOP - FAMILY BAG	$11.99
PORK BELLY - FAMILY BAG	$11.99
PORK ADOBO - FAMILY BAG	$9.99
PORK HOCKS - FAMILY BAG	$7.99
PORK BUTTS - FAMILY BAG	$11.99
BEEF STEW	$12.99
BEEF SHORTRIBS - FAMILY BAG	$15.99
BEEF RIB EYE - FAMILY BAG	$16.99
STEWING CHICKEN - FAMILY BAG	$6.99
LEG QUARTER - FAMILY BAG	$5.99
GROUND PORK 10LBS.	$17.99
CHOPPED HAM 10LBS.	$18.99
CHOPPED HAM 5 LBS.	$10.99
MILLER SAUSAGE (REGULAR)	$15.99
MILLER SAUSAGE (HOT)	$15.99
HOFFY PORTUGUESE SAUSAGE	$2.39
PEELED SHRIMP	$3.59
MIX SEAFOOD	$2.39
IMMITATION CRABMEAT	$2.79
MACKEREL - FAMILY BAG	$6.99
CHICKEN WINGETE - FAMILY BAG	$13.99
KELLOGG'S CORN POPS CEREAL 12.5 OZ.	$3.49
KELLOGG'S CORN POPS CEREAL 9.2 OZ.	$2.99
KELLOGG'S APPLE JACKS CEREAL 8.7 OZ.	$2.99
KELLOGG'S FROOT LOOPS CEREAL 8.7 OZ.	$2.99
KELLOGG'S FROSTED FLAKES OF CORN 14 OZ.	$2.99
KELLOGG'S FROOT LOOPS REGULAR CEREAL 12.8 OZ.	$3.49
QUAKER CAPTAIN CRUNCH CEREAL 16 OZ.	$3.89
CAPTAIN CRUNCH'S PEANUT BUTTER CRUNCH 14 OZ.	$3.89

FROZEN

VEGA FRESH FROZEN SHRIMP 1 LB. **$5.50**/LB.

TILAPIA (WHOLE) 0.99 C /LB. **99¢**/LB.

MILK FISH **$1.49**/LB.

HOT LINKS 24 OZ. **$3.99**

JUMBO FRANK HOTDOGS **$1.19**

BAR–S BACON **$3.29**

CHAMORRO SAUSAGE **$4.99**

NON-FOOD

CHARMIN TISSUE ULTRA STRENGTH 24 ROLLS **$7.99**

BOUNTY PAPER TOWEL 1 ROLL **$1.59**

JOY LEMON DISHWASHING LIQUID 90 OZ **$6.99**

DAWN ORIGINAL SCENT DISHWASHING LIQUID 90 OZ. **$9.99**

CLOROX ULTRA BLEACH 96 OZ. **$3.95**

LUV'S ULTRA LEAKGUARDS ALL KIND **$19.99**

GAIN LIQUID SOAP 50 OZ. ALL KIND **$5.99**

HEAD AND SHOULDER SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER 420ML. **$5.49**

VASELINE NATURAL 2 IN 1 SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER **$2.49**

PRODUCE

US EXTRA LARGE EGGS **$1.99**

YELLOW ONIONS **69¢**/LB.

GREEN CABBAGE **69¢**/LB.

HONEY DEW **99¢**/LB.

Scholarships to create pool of educators for blind students

MANGILAO, Guam—The University of Guam Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, & Service, in partnership with University of Massachusetts - Boston, has been awarded a grant to administer the Pacific Vision Instruction Project (Pacific VIP) Master's Degree Program.

This four-year grant aims to increase the pool of fully credentialed instructional personnel who are highly qualified to educate students who are blind or have visual impairments.

Up to 20 scholarships will be awarded to applicants from American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau to meet each entity's responsibility to provide personnel to serve students who are blind or have visual impairments.

The Personnel Preparation grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs.

Pacific VIP provides scholarships leading to a Master of Education in Special Education degree, plus dual credentials in Teacher of Visual Impairments and Orientation and Mobility.

FOR MORE INFO

Connie P. Guerrero, Pacific VIP Faculty
- Tel: 671-735-2490
- Email: connie.guerrero@guamcedders.org

ON THE NET

To download application packet, log on to http://www.guamcedders.org

The Pacific VIP Master's Degree Program will use a blended delivery approach of online coursework and on-site required class/lab work on Guam, which will be enhanced by integrated field experiences coordinated throughout the academic program.

"We are so excited to offer this opportunity to educators in the Pacific," said Heidi San Nicolas, Ph.D., Guam CEDDERS director. "Together we will build local capacity throughout the Pacific to serve our students who are blind or have visual impairments."

The University of Guam CEDDERS is now accepting applications to the Pacific VIP Master's Degree Program. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, December 10, 2010. ***(UoG)***

FILIPINO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, INC.
P.O. Box 5663 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950 USA Tel. No. 1-670-235-7712

INVITATION TO BID

Proposed Beautification of FILCOMFOUND Pavilion

A mandatory Pre-Bid and site coordination are open to all contractors at CNMI with valid CNMI business permits.

Copies of Plans and specifications may be picked-up at the site on the date of Pre-Bid conference at the site itself @ Filipino Community Pavilion Southwest of Civic Center Basketball court on Friday, November 19, 2010 by 9:00am.

All bids shall be marked on their proposal marked **"Filcomfound 1".** Date of Bidding shall be by November 23, 2010, 9:00am at the same site at which time and place shall be opened and read aloud to all present contractors.

This project is already permitted by: Department of Public Works (DPW), Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Public Lands and Natural Resources (DLNR).

By: Eddie C. Caranzo
Filcomfound Secretary
Tel. No. (670) 234-8476

By: Maribel B. Loste
Filcomfound President
Tel. No. (670) 285-2608

Conservation loans available to Guam farmers and ranchers

GUAM—Farmers and ranchers in Guam are being reminded that the USDA's Farm Service Agency will make and guarantee conservation loans, or CLs, to producers who want to promote conservation on their land as well as conserve the country's natural resources.

Miki Miyasato, farm loan manager, said many farmers who need and want to implement conservation measures on their land do not have sufficient funds at hand to implement these practices.

"I encourage producers needing capital to implement conservation measures and conserve natural resources to apply for credit through this program," said Miyasato.

Producers can apply for conservation loans to improve or implement conservation practices on their land as long as the practice is approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Services.

According to Miyasato, producers who do not currently have an existing conservation plan should visit NRCS to develop one prior to requesting conservation loan program assistance from the Farm Service Agency.

Examples of conservation practices include the installation of conservation structures, establishment of forest cover, installation of water conservation measures, establishment or improvement of permanent pastures, implementation of manure management and the adaptation of other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques or technologies.

Direct CLs are available at the local FSA office with loan limits up to $300,00. Guaranteed CLs with limits of up to $1,119,000 are available from lenders who participate in FSA's guaranteed loan program.

For more information on the CL program, contact Guam Country FSA office at 472-7594 or visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov. ***(FSA)***

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HPU seeks Hawaii entries for James M. Vaughn award

HONOLULU—The Hawai'i Pacific University is seeking entries for the James M. Vaughan Award for Poetry. The award will recognize a Hawai'i writer for an outstanding poem or group of poems. The winner will receive a $250 cash award and have his or her works featured in *Hawai'i Pacific Review*, the annual literary magazine published by HPU.

Adele NeJame will judge the competition this year. NeJame is an award-winning poet, author of two books of poetry, and a professor of English at HPU.

To participate, send three poems with a 100-line limit each along with one's name, address, phone number, e-mail address, names of poems on a cover page and a five-line biography to the James M. Vaughan Award for Poetry, 1060 Bishop Street, LB 7A, Honolulu, HI 96813. No author identification on the actual poems.

Participants must have resided in Hawai'i for at least one year. Submitted poems must not have been previously published. Submissions must be postmarked by Dec. 15, 2010. Manuscripts will not be returned.

The winner will be announced in newspapers January 2011, and the award will be given at HPU's annual Ko'olau Writing Workshops in March 2011. The winner will also be asked to share his or her poetry and writing experience with HPU students and faculty during the spring semester.

This event is supported in part by Hawai'i Literary Arts Council and the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. For more information, contact Patrice M. Wilson, Ph.D., award coordinator, at pwilson@hpu.edu or (808) 544-1108. ***(PR)***


CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE NOW
FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND LEARN AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMIES
CONGRESSMAN SABLAN CAN NOMINATE STUDENTS FOR THE AIR FORCE AND MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMIES, AND THE MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT.
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United States citizens
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SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE:
A strong academic background
The ability to pass a physical aptitude test
Sound moral character
More information and applications can be found at www.sablan.house.gov, or by calling toll free (877) 446-3465. Applications are due December 15th, 2010.
Paid for with official funds authorized by the U.S. House of Representatives

Business

GM offering may leave out many small investors

NEW YORK (AP)—When General Motors finally offers stock to the public on Thursday, small investors will probably be left out.

Pension funds, mutual funds and other big institutions all want a piece of the rehabilitated GM. That means the three dozen banks divvying up the new shares may not have much left for individual investors.

And being left out of the initial public offering can mean being left out of some big profits: Shares of newly public companies sometimes jump 10 percent or more on the first day of trading, handing easy money to those lucky enough to get access at the offering price.

"Wall Street is only begrudgingly involving individual investors," laments David Menlow, founder of research company IPOfinancial.com. The attitude is it's "our ball and our rules."

The most important rule of all: The banks handling IPOs—called underwriters—get to pick who gets the shares at the offering price. And critics say those shares often go to favored clients or potential clients—that is, institutions that pay lots of trading commissions to the banks, not the small fry.

"It's still the good-ole-boys network," says Menlow. "As much as the firms would argue to the contrary, it's still, `How much business are you doing with us?'"

The GM sale is one of the largest and most anticipated IPOs in years. For sale are 478 million shares and a piece of an iconic American manufacturer. The biggest seller is the U.S. government, which hopes to cut its ownership from 61 percent to 33 percent or less. The government got the stake in exchange for help in saving GM from near collapse with $50 billion in taxpayer money.

That the small guy had to rescue the company when it was sick but could get shut out now that it's healthy has rankled some investors. The U.S. government had said it wanted small investors to have an opportunity to invest in the IPO, though it never specified just how many shares would be made available.

The backroom deals by bankers helping companies go public have drawn fierce criticism over the years. Longtime Silicon Valley financier Bill Hambrecht says the bankers often don't get the highest price possible for new shares and are rewarded too much for their work anyway. He favors Dutch auctions that allocate new shares to the highest bidders including small investors. His company, WR Hambrecht + Co., used such an auction to take Google Inc. public in 2004.

Treasury spokesman Mark Paustenbach had no comment on whether an auction was considered for GM or on how many shares will go to individual investors.

Of course, a successful return by GM to the public markets should be celebrated. Though it's not certain Washington will get all its money back, a successful IPO at least makes it more likely. And a lot of small investors shut out of the IPO will have money in mutual funds that are allowed to buy.

Issues of fairness aside, IPO experts note it's unusual for individual investors to get many shares at offering prices. In fact, it's so unusual that when a lot are offered, everyone assumes it's because big, sophisticated investors have spurned them first.

Experts: BP ignored warning signs on doomed Gulf well

WASHINGTON (AP)—A new report from an independent scientific panel says BP and its contractors missed and ignored key warning signs and failed to fully recognize important risks in the days and hours leading up to the massive Gulf of Mexico oil well blowout.

Some of the panel's conclusions appear more critical of BP, the owner of the well, than preliminary findings issued last week by the presidential oil spill commission.

That commission said while BP made decisions that saved time it found no evidence that employees consciously chose saving money over safety. The National Academy of Engineering, which issued the latest report, said BP and others involved in the disaster failed to manage risks and didn't even have a system in place to weigh safety against costs.

Several entities, including the Coast Guard, the Justice Department, Congress and BP itself, also are looking into the causes of the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history.

The various inquiries have so far come up with similar core findings: That BP and its partners misread critical pressure tests, that the cement job meant to seal the well didn't work, and that the blowout preventer failed to stop the gusher as designed.

Yet the investigations vary sharply in emphasis and tone. BP's internal investigation spread the blame around, saying its partners on the doomed rig shared responsibility. The presidential panel said a cascade of failures, not any single decision, led to the disaster.

The engineering academy, which issued its report late Tuesday, focused on flawed and risky decision-making. It said that the companies involved downplayed the risks of deepwater drilling even as they insisted they never compromised safety.

"A great number of decisions, all of which appear to us to be questionable ... also appeared to be justified by those individuals and those companies involved," said Donald Winter, chairman of the 15-member panel.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Qantas: 40 engines on A380s need to be replaced

SYDNEY (AP)—Up to 40 engines on Airbus superjumbos of the type that disintegrated in flight on a Qantas plane will need to be replaced, the Australian airline's chief executive said Thursday. Three airlines—Qantas, Singapore Airlines and Germany's Lufthansa—fly A380s powered by Rolls-Royce Trent 900 engines, with a total of 20 planes with four engines each. On Nov. 4, one of the giant engines on a Qantas superjumbo caught fire and blew apart shortly after takeoff from Singapore, in what experts say was the most serious safety incident for the world's newest and largest passenger plane. The Sydney-bound flight returned safely to Singapore where it made an emergency landing.

Oil rises above $81 on Asian stocks, weaker dollar

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices rose above $81 a barrel Thursday in Asia as a rebound in regional stock markets and a weaker dollar helped push crude higher. Benchmark oil for December delivery was up 74 cents to $81.18 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell $1.90 to settle at $80.44 on Wednesday.



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Nation

Uneasy House Democrats keep Pelosi as their leader

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Democrats gambled Wednesday they can return to power under the same leaders who just oversaw a 61-seat election loss, choosing Nancy Pelosi to remain their party chief when they become the minority in January.

Moderate Democrats pleaded for a change to show voters they understand the anger and unrest registered two weeks earlier on Election Day. And Pelosi didn't retain her leadership without a fight, defeating Rep. Heath Shuler of North Carolina, 150-43, in secret balloting in a lengthy closed-door gathering on Capitol Hill.

In a contrast befitting the Nov. 2 election results, House Republicans kept Rep. John Boehner of Ohio as their leader without opposition, and he will become speaker in the new Congress. Eric Cantor of Virginia will retain the second-ranking party position, which will be majority leader, and Kevin McCarthy of California will be the party whip.

Boehner, who turned 61 on Wednesday, told his colleagues they will usher in "the dawn of a new majority," which he said will be "humbler, wiser, and more focused than its predecessors on the priorities of the people."

Pelosi, the nation's first female House speaker, will become minority leader when the 112th Congress convenes.

"She is the face that defeated us in this last election," declared Florida Rep. Allen Boyd, who was among those who lost reelection fights. However, Pelosi, who presided over big Democratic gains in the 2006 and 2008 elections, remains popular among the liberals who dominate her caucus more than ever. Dissident moderates could not find enough votes to force her aside.

In fact, the Democrats kept their entire leadership team intact despite election losses that President Barack Obama called "a shellacking." They elected Steny Hoyer of Maryland to keep the No. 2 post and Jim Clyburn of South Carolina to hold the third-ranking position, which will be renamed "assistant leader."


Pelosi

Pelosi and Clyburn are 70. Hoyer is 71. Cantor is 47, McCarthy 45.

Pelosi, a Californian, is a prodigious campaign fundraiser and tireless legislator known for listening to her colleagues but pressing them to stick with party leaders on key votes. Her supporters credit her for passing difficult, major legislation such as this year's health care overhaul.

Pelosi praised her lineup Wednesday. "It's a team that took us to victory in '05, in '06, and will take us to victory again," she said. "We extend the hand of friendship to the Republicans, we look forward to hearing their ideas on job creation and deficit reduction."

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for OLIMP USA

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application. Mr. Mustafa Shakir is requesting to construct a carnival ground on Lot 013 D 42. This site would be located at the intersection of Beach Road and Fishing Base Street across from Kristo Rai Church in the Village of Garapan. This site is zoned as "Public Resource".

Date: December 02, 2010 (Thursday)
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, December 01, 2010. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Board Chair

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for Rigel Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application. Mr. Manuel J. Alvarez is requesting to construct institutionalized housing and expand an existing warehouse. This property is described as Lot 011 D 25 in the Village of Garapan. This is at the intersection of Mooty Street with Natdo and Chichirica Avenues. The site is zoned as "Mixed Commercial".

Date: December 02, 2010 (Thursday)
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, December 01, 2010. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

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/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Board Chair

Feds holding firm on intrusive airport security

WASHINGTON (AP)—Despite a deluge of complaints over intrusive pat-downs and revealing airport scans, the government is betting Americans would rather fly safe than untouched. "I'm not going to change those policies," the nation's transportation security chief declared Wednesday.

Responded a lawmaker: "I wouldn't want my wife to be touched in the way that these folks are being touched."

The debate over where to strike the balance between privacy and security, in motion since new safety measures took effect after the 2001 terrorist attacks, has intensified with the debut of pat-downs that are more thorough, and invasive, than before, and the spread of full-body image scans.

A week before some of the busiest flying days of the year, some passengers are refusing the regimen, many more are complaining and the aviation industry is caught in the middle.

In Florida, the Orlando Sanford Airport, which handles 2 million passengers a year, now plans to replace "testy" Transportation Security Administration screeners with private contractors, and two veteran commercial pilots are refusing to fly out of airports using the procedures.

"The outcry is huge," Texas Republican Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison told the TSA administrator, John Pistole, at a Capitol Hill hearing. "I know that you're aware of it. But we've got to see some action."

Pistole conceded "reasonable people can disagree" on how to properly balance safety at the nation's airports but he asserted the new security measures are necessary because of intelligence on latest attack methods that might be used by terrorists.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management
Caller Box 10007, Springs Plaza, Middle Road, Saipan, MP 96950
Website: www.crm.gov.mp
Tel. (670) 664-8300 • Fax (670) 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
November 17, 2010

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. MODE TOUR CORP.	10/25/10 SLRm-2010-X-092	FILMING	MANAGAHA IS.	LAGOON & REEF APC	APPROVED (11/15/10)*
2. CTSI LOGISTICS	10/26/10 SPlm-2010-X-093	PARKING SPACE	SAIPAN, TINIAN, ROTA	SHORELINE APC	APPROVED (09/24/10)*
3. YM MICRONESIA INC.	11/10/10 STRS/LRm-2010-X-094	FILMING	SAIPAN, TINIAN, ROTA SHORLEINE AREAS	SHORELINE APC	APPROVED (09/30/10)*
4. SAIPAN SUNSET CRUISE	11/12/10 SPlm-2010-X-095	FILMING	SOUTH SEAPLANE RAMP	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	APPROVED (10/12/10)*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, December 02, 2010 at 6:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
5. Communications
6. Public Comments

B. Reports
1. Chairperson
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Administrator
5. Committees
6. Legal Counsel

C. Public Hearing
1. A request for a Conditional Use Permit to allow the construction of institutionalized housing and the expansion of an existing warehouse. This property is described as Lot 011 D 25 in the Village of Garapan. This is at the intersection of Mooty Street with Natdo and Chichirica Avenues. The site is zoned as "Mixed Commercial". Requested by Manuel J. Alvarez for Rigel Corporation.
2. A request for a Conditional Use Permit to construct a carnival ground on Lot 013 D 42. This site is located at the intersection of Beach Road and Fishing Base Street across from Kristo Rai Church in the Village of Garapan. This site is zoned as "Public Resource". Requested by Mustafa Shakir.

D. Old Business.
1. Update on Zoning Office Operations (Permit Processing, Enforcement, Junk Car Program).
2. Update on Zoning Law/ Text Amendments (comments)

E. New Business.
1. Election of Zoning Board officers

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chairperson, Zoning Board

Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

US wants tribesmen to fight Taliban in Afghanistan

SANGIN, Afghanistan (AP)—When members of the Alikozai tribe rose up against the Taliban in this critical insurgent stronghold, neither coalition forces nor the government in Kabul lifted a finger to help them. The Taliban promptly crushed the rebellion. And just to make sure everyone got the message, they chained the uprising's leader to the back of a pickup truck and dragged him to another province. That was three years ago, when Afghanistan was not a priority for the Bush administration, coalition forces lacked resources and the Afghan government was worried about stirring up tribal rivalries.

Death toll from Indonesia's volcano climbs to 275

MOUNT MERAPI, Indonesia (AP)—The number of people killed by a series of eruptions at Indonesia's most volatile volcano in recent weeks has risen to 275. The National Disaster Management Agency said Thursday that the toll climbed after more than a dozen victims succumbed to their injuries—mostly severe burns. Mount Merapi began unleashing torrents of hot gas, rock and other debris late last month after years of dormancy. The most significant blast came Nov. 5, the deadliest day at the mountain in decades. The disaster agency said most of the 275 people were killed by searing gas clouds. Others died during panicked evacuations or from respiratory problems and other illnesses linked to the mountain.

Australia to deport US man wanted in wife's death

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP)—Australian officials said Thursday they would deport an American convicted in the death of his wife on a scuba-diving honeymoon after U.S. officials pledged not to seek the death penalty if he is convicted again at home. Gabe Watson was released from prison last week after serving an 18-month sentence for the manslaughter of his wife, Tina, in 2003 during a trip on Australia's Great Barrier Reef. He was being held in immigration custody until Australia—a staunch opponent of the death penalty—received assurances that he would not face capital charges in his home state of Alabama.

Hong Kong officials meet after bird flu confirmed

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong has confirmed its first case of human bird flu in seven years. Health Secretary York Chow said late Wednesday that a 59-year-old woman had tested positive for H5N1 bird flu after returning to Hong Kong from the Chinese mainland, and is in serious condition in a local hospital. With the announcement, the government raised the bird flu alert to "serious," meaning there is a risk of contracting the disease within the territory. Chow said Hong Kong officials were meeting Thursday and would determine whether additional measures are needed to safeguard local residents.

Report: Skippers to blame in whale protest sinking

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Investigators looking into a collision between a Japanese whaler and a high-tech protest boat on the high seas off Antarctica earlier this year said Thursday that the captains of both vessels were to blame. The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society had accused the Japanese ship of deliberately ramming its futuristic, rocket-shaped boat, the Ady Gil, on Jan. 6, slicing the bow off the speed boat and eventually causing it to sink. The whalers denied it, saying the Ady Gil's captain deliberately put his vessel in their ship's path. The clash was the most serious in the several years that Sea Shepherd has sent vessels into far southern waters to try to harass the Japanese fleet into ending its annual whale cull.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BID
CUC-IFB-11-006

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF POLE MOUNTED TRANSFORMERS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Pole Mounted Transformers for the CUC Power Division in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The bid package may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-006, Supply & Delivery of Pole Mounted Transformers", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 3, 2010 at 10:00 AM. (CHST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. Bid award will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is responsive to all specification and requirements concerning delivery time, payment terms, warranty and duration of warranty.

Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM (CHST) local time on **November 26, 2010** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. John Onedera, Power Division Engineer- johno@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - **mika_muna@cucgov.net.**

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE U. MALAE
Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BID
CUC-IFB-11-008

Cross Island Road Improvements, Phase II-A, Power Poles & Lines Relocation, Papago, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the relocation of overhead power distribution systems along Cross Island Road in Papago, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The bid package may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting followed by a site visit, is scheduled for November 29, 2010 at 10:00 AM, local time, at the CUC Conference Room in the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All bidder are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidder due to lack of information or understanding of the project site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-008, Cross Island Road Improvements, Phase II-A, Power Poles & Lines Relocation, Papago, Saipan", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than December 09, 2010 at 10:00 AM, (CHST) at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less that the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time on December 3, 2010 to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. John Onedera, Power Division Engineer- johno@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE U. MALAE
Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director
3rd Floor, Joeten Commercial Building • P.O. Box 501220 CK, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CUC-RFP-11-009

Loan Servicing and Customer Account Financing

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to provide loan servicing and customer account financing for Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Scope-of-Work may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-11-009, Loan Servicing and Customer Account Financing"** to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM, (CHST) local time on **December 21, 2010**. Late submission will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time on December 14, 2010 to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Purchasing Officer via email msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the sol

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

World

Israel pullout stirs fear in Lebanon border hamlet

GHAJAR, Golan Heights (AP)—Israel agreed Wednesday to pull its troops from the northern half of a village that straddles the border with Lebanon, defusing a long-standing political dispute but frightening villagers who don't want their community divided.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said senior government ministers had approved the withdrawal from northern Ghajar "in principle." Within the next few weeks, Israeli diplomats are to work out a detailed agreement with the U.N. peacekeeping force that patrols the border zone in southern Lebanon.

The centerpiece of that deal would be a plan to keep Lebanese Hezbollah militants, who warred with Israel in 2006, out of the village. Israel took control of northern Ghajar during that war.

A statement from U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's office welcomed the Israeli decision in principle and said that "the United Nations intends to continue to work closely with all parties in the coming period in a process to resolve the permanent status of Ghajar."

Israeli officials said the village would not be divided after the withdrawal, but that did not allay residents' fears of being left stranded in Lebanon, if not by Israel then by the U.N. peacekeepers.

"People are scared it will separate children from their families and brothers from brothers and from our land," said Najib Khatib, a village spokesman. "How can they come today and divide a small village like this? We hope that this decision won't be carried out."

The village of Ghajar, flanked by rolling green plains, is virtually inaccessible to all but its residents. Only military roads lead to the village of concrete, boxy homes. Israeli soldiers man a checkpoint at the village entrance and search all vehicles.

The village is home to 2,200 people and lies in a strategic corner where the boundaries of Syria, Israel and Lebanon are in dispute. More than 1,500 residents live in the northern half.

Israel captured all of Ghajar from Syria in 1967 when it took the Golan Heights. After the Israeli military ended an 18-year occupation of southern Lebanon in 2000, U.N. surveyors split Ghajar between Lebanon and the Israeli-controlled Golan, but Israel reoccupied the northern half four years ago.

Under the truce that ended the fighting, Israel agreed to withdraw, but it wanted to clinch an arrangement that would keep the Iranian-backed Hezbollah from entering the village.

Haiti cholera riots lessen, 3rd protester killed

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Anti-U.N. rioting fueled by cholera fears scaled down in northern Haiti on Wednesday, but a third demostrator was killed in clashes and small-scale demonstrations took to the streets of the capital.

Florida health officials, meanwhile, confirmed a case of cholera in a woman who had visited Haiti, though they said the disease is unlikely to spread in the United States.

In Cap-Haitien, where the rioting began Monday, a U.N. armored vehicle ran into a trench that protesters had dug in the street, witnesses and U.N. police spokesman Andre Leclerc said. Protesters then ran forward throwing rocks when the soldiers got out to push.

Witnesses told an AP Television News cameraman that the peacekeepers opened fire, killing a demonstrator and wounding one protester in the face, one in the stomach and another in the leg. The dead man's body was displayed to reporters with a fatal gunshot wound in his left armpit.

The U.N. denied its peacekeepers fired, insisting there wasn't any shooting at the scene by anyone. The U.N. acknowledged earlier in the week when a peacekeeper killed one of the two other demonstrators who have died, saying the soldier shot in self-defense.

For the most part, protests were distinctly calmer Wednesday than in the first two days, though flaming barricades remained and protesters threw rocks at police trying to remove them. The national police chief and other senior officials held a news conference in Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second biggest city, to again appeal for calm.

The riots began Monday in northern and central Haiti over suspicions that a month-old cholera epidemic that has killed more than 1,000 people was brought to Haiti by U.N. peacekeepers from Nepal.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 50514, SAIPAN, MP 96950
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

(This ad is paid by NMHC with HUD Funds.)

NMHC IFB 2010-018

Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Saipan.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office on **Monday, November 15, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivisions and inspect several housing units owned by NMHC that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC Corporate Director at P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 9, 2010.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC-IFB 2010-018**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, not later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time **Friday, November 26, 2010**. Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time, **Friday, November 26, 2010**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **Friday, November 26, 2010**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **Monday, December 6, 2010**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **8:00 a.m.**, local time, **Tuesday, December 7, 2010**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m.**, local time on **Friday, November 26, 2010**.

All labor on this project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of $5.05 per hour which took effect on October 1, 2010 as established by Federal law including subsequent increases of $.50 per hour as announced by the U.S. Department of Labor and/or the CNMI Department of Labor, whichever is higher.

NMHC hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that, in any contacts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small, minority businesses and women's business enterprises will be afforded equal opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires the successful bidder to the "maximum extent feasible", take affirmative steps to provide training, contracting and employment opportunities and help ensure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents in Saipan.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID
NMHC IFB 2010-012

INVITATION FOR BID
NMHC IFB 2010-012

This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **SINAPALO CHILDREN'S PARK REVITALIZATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**, in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning **Monday, November 22, 2010**, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Field Office in Songsong Village, Rota, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday except CNMI holidays. Inquiries may be directed to Ms. Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager, at telephone numbers. (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours or Mr. Mark Manglona, Rota Field Office Representative, at (670) 532-9410. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars ($50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by cash, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidders are advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act and the Labor Standard Provisions for Wage Rate Determination of the Commonwealth. All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of $4.55 per hour as established by Federal law or the U. S. Department of Labor General Decision No. CM100001 03/12/2010 CM1 superseded General Decision No. CM2008-0001, whichever is greater.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at **1:30 p.m.** on **Tuesday, November 30, 2010**, at the proposed project site located in Sinapalo, Rota, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director of the NMHC, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or faxed to (670) 322-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time, Wednesday, December 1, 2010.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC-IFB 2010-012**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, not later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time **Wednesday, December 15, 2010.** Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time, **Wednesday, December 15, 2010**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **Wednesday, December 15, 2010**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **Wednesday, December 22, 2010**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **10:00 a.m.**, local time, **Thursday, December 23, 2010**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m.**, local time on **Wednesday, December 15, 2010**.

A bid bond of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. 500514, Saipan, MP 96950. Bid bonds must be certified by the Office of the Insurance Commissioner.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety.

Performance time for completion of this project is one hundred fifty (150) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Two Hundred Dollars (US$200.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provided to the Commonwealth. This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the maximum extent feasible."

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

All documents received shall be the sole property of the NMHC with the exception of the Bid Bond, Certified Check, or Cashier's Check, which will be returned to the proposers after the acceptance and award of contract to the successful contractor.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/Marcie M. Tomokane
Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director, Division of Procurement & Supply

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Police say man swallowed his mom's rings

WASHINGTON, Pa. (AP)—Police in a southwestern Pennsylvania township said they've recovered one of two rings a man swallowed after he allegedly stole them from his mother—and are waiting for his digestive system to produce the other. Fifty-three-year-old Robert Spriggs was charged with theft for allegedly stealing the rings, each valued at $30,000, while visiting his 81-year-old mother on Saturday in North Strabane Township. Police said Spriggs swallowed one he had in his pocket during questioning. Police said he has previously swallowed the other ring. Spriggs is in the Washington County Jail in a cell without a flushable toilet. Police said they had recovered one ring Monday, but it wasn't immediately clear if they had found the other. Online court records don't list an attorney for Spriggs.

Police: Man urinates on cruiser after DUI arrest

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (AP)—Johnson City police said a man urinated on a police cruiser during a traffic stop for drunk driving. The Johnson City Press quotes the police report's description of the incident. It said police stopped 23-year-old Darinel Lopez Cruz at about 3:30 a.m. on Sunday after they saw his Chevrolet Blazer weaving in and out of its lane. Police gave Cruz a field sobriety test and then arrested him. That's when he urinated on the cruiser. Cruz was charged with DUI and indecent exposure. He was jailed at the Washington County Detention Center on a $4,000 bond. It was not immediately clear whether he had obtained a lawyer.

Police: Man wore priest robe to steal church cash

JACKSON, Mich. (AP)—A 52-year-old Jackson man accused of donning a priest's robe to steal parishioner donations from a church has been arrested. Sgt. Kevin Hiller told the Jackson Citizen Patriot the man stole an undisclosed amount of money and checks from St. John Catholic Church about 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Hiller said the man used the robe to gain access to a room where the money was located. Witnesses helped police identify the man, who was arrested at his home. Police have not released the suspect's name. They say he is on parole and remains held at the Jackson County Jail pending parole violation and larceny from a building charges. Jackson is about 70 miles west of Detroit.

Woman allegedly tries to cut tattooed name off man

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)—Lincoln police said a woman tried to slice a tattoo of her name off her boyfriend's neck. Capt. Anthony Butler told the Lincoln Journal Star that the 19-year-old woman and her 30-year-old boyfriend had gotten into a dispute around 6:40 p.m. on Friday. That's when she tried to cut off the tattoo. Butler said the boyfriend suffered only minor injuries, mostly scratches. Other details were not available.

Cat blamed for starting fire with toaster oven

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash. (AP)—Investigators believe a cat who liked to sleep on top of a toaster oven started a kitchen fire in Port Townsend by depressing the toaster lever. Lois Lund told The Peninsula Daily News she doesn't hold a grudge against her cat Osiris. Lund said he had been sleeping on top of the oven to avoid a pet dog and probably stepped on the lever. Lund heard the fire early Sunday and put it out with a garden hose. Fire investigator Kurt Steinbach said the fire originated in the oven that had been left on. The cat escaped, and no one was hurt in the fire.

Ky. men sentenced in bizarre beard-eating case

LAWRENCEBURG, Ky. (AP)—Two central Kentucky men were sentenced to probation in connection with a bizarre case in which a third man said he was forced to eat his beard after an argument. The Lexington Herald-Leader reported 47-year-old Troy Holt and 51-year-old James Hill were sentenced Tuesday in Anderson Circuit Court. Harvey Westmoreland of Lawrenceburg had said Holt cut off his beard and forced him to eat it while Hill allegedly held a sickle blade to Westmoreland and his brother during the May incident. Holt could not say why he made Westmoreland eat his beard other than that things "got out of control" after some heavy drinking. He added, "I ain't got no excuses about what I done." Hill had no comment after sentencing. As a condition of their sentences, neither Holt nor Hill is to have contact with Westmoreland.



BIG SNAKESKIN SHOES TO FILL AP

This undated photo provided by the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium shows a newly acquired python that arrived Tuesday Nov. 16, 2010 at the zoo in Columbus, Ohio. Weeks after announcing the death of the longest snake in captivity, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium said it has acquired the python's smaller daughter. The 24-foot, 18-year-old snake named Fluffy died Oct. 27 of an apparent tumor. The zoo's new snake is 12 years old, and 6 feet shorter than her mother. The zoo says in a statement that the daughter arrived Tuesday from the same private breeder who sold Fluffy to the zoo in 2007. Fluffy was about the length of a moving van and had held the Guinness World Record as the longest snake living in captivity.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

In Loving memory of

Lourdes Palacios Dela Cruz

February 11, 1935 – November 10, 2010

Was called to join her Creator at the age of 75, at Mesa, Arizona.

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Children

RITA / ANTONIO CABRERA (Roselynn / Walter, Naomi, Chanele, TJ & Danielle, Christopher)
JOVITA / PETER TORRES (Shawn/Jasmine, Jadeen / Mauricio, Peter Jr., Raena)
PRISCILLA / DONALD CABRERA (Chad, Lionel, Amber, Cory)
BERTHA / JOSE MANAHANE (Jennifer / Joray, Charnelsa, Trent, Tremayne, Patricia, Colton, Bianca, Jose)
BEN / ELLIE DELA CRUZ (BJ Peter, Dane Andrew)
JOE DELA CRUZ (Shianti, Shawnee)
LIZ / FRANCISCO IGLECIAS (Franklin, Kalani, George, Byron, Matilde, Vince, Travis)
PATRICIA / DON CAUDELL JR. (Donnie / Carolyn, Melodie / Leroy, Lindsey / Scott, Kaela / Jeffrey)
RAYMOND / MERCED DELA CRUZ (Doming, Brittney Joy / Tom, Raymond Kenji, Rayanne, Levonne / Ben)

Brother, Sisters and In-Laws:
Eugenio Palacios
Frances and Fred Hill
Delgadina and David Racer
Tomas and Carmen Dela Cruz

She will also be missed by numerous great grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

In her new life, she now joins her:
Husband: †Domingo Castro Dela Cruz
Parents: †Vicente San Miguel Palacios
†Rita Cabrera Pangelinan Palacios
Parents In Law: †Jose Cruz Dela Cruz
†Rita Villagomez Castro Dela Cruz

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws:
†Serafin Palacios
†Isaac Palacios
†Herman Palacios / †Lydia B. Palacios
†Edward Ryan
†Jesus C. Dela Cruz
†Rosita C. Dela Cruz
†Victorina C. Dela Cruz
†Jose C. Dela Cruz



Daily Mass of Intentions is being celebrated at San Antonio Church at 6:00pm followed by the Holy Rosary.

Her remains will be arriving on Friday, November 19, 2010 at 12:30am. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, November 20, 2010. Her remains will be taken from Borja Funeral Memorial Chapel at 7:30am to San Antonio Church. Responso service will be at 8:00am followed by the Holy Rosary at 8:30am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am. Interment service will follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Please Join us in Prayers

The Children & Family

In Loving Memory of

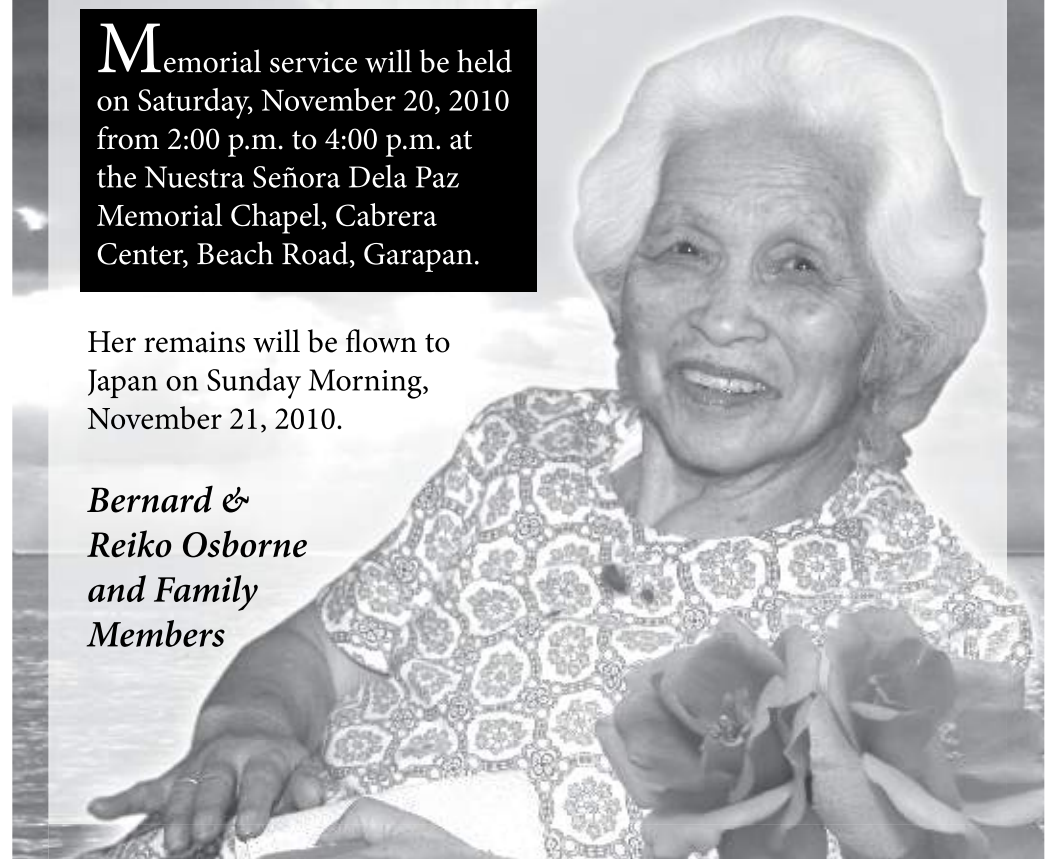
MASA HOSOYA

Passed away on Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 20, 2010 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Nuestra Señora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel, Cabrera Center, Beach Road, Garapan.

Her remains will be flown to Japan on Sunday Morning, November 21, 2010.

Bernard & Reiko Osborne and Family Members



Science & Technology

Amazon to accept screenwriter submissions

By BEN FRITZ
LOS ANGELES TIMES

ON THE NET
Amazon Studios: http://studios.amazon.com/

LOS ANGELES—The company that pioneered online book sales wants to go Hollywood.

Amazon, the world's largest online retailer, is launching a website that lets users upload scripts and movie samples and then use community tools to evaluate and edit one another's work.

Submissions judged the most promising by a panel of experts and company executives will be brought to Warner Bros., where Amazon has signed a deal in hopes of producing feature films under the Amazon Studios name.

Amazon Studios Director Roy Price said his company put the venture together to apply digital technology to the still-arcane process of submitting and developing movie projects for studios.

"It's much easier now to make movies, but it's still as hard as ever to break into Hollywood," said Price, who is also Amazon's director of digital product development. "We think we can play an interesting role in changing that."

Users can submit full-length scripts and additional material, including storyboards or fully produced films, to the Amazon Studios site. Other users will then be able to comment or rate the content and even revise it without the permission of the original creator.

In exchange for putting their material in play, users give Amazon an 18-month period of exclusive rights—an "option" in industry parlance—to their work. That type of restriction without payment is likely to deter established filmmakers and screenwriters and make Amazon Studios a home for rookies only.

But a panel of judges, including "Top Gun" screenwriter Jack Epps Jr. and "Bottle Rocket" producer Michael Taylor, will look at the highest-rated material and award monthly and yearly prizes to screenplays and films, Amazon said. Through the end of 2011, the prizes will total $2.7 million.

Amazon can then take projects to Warner Bros. If Warner passes, Amazon can pitch the projects to other studios. A writer or director whose submission is turned into a theatrically released film by a studio would receive $200,000 from Amazon.

Unlike first-look deals with established producers who work on the studio's Burbank lot, Warner Bros. is not committing any money to Amazon, only agreeing to look at ideas that it submits.

Given the long odds faced by most projects submitted by even well-known producers in Hollywood, the chances of any material uploaded to Amazon Studios turning into a movie are slim.

Facebook expands its Messages

By EDWARD C. BAIG and JON SWARTZ
USA TODAY

Facebook started to roll out a revamped messaging platform Monday that could change how millions of people use e-mail—and intensify the company's efforts to pry Web users and advertising dollars from rivals led by Google.

The new service is part of "a titanic war," says Matt Cain, an analyst at research firm Gartner.

Facebook began to offer a few thousand U.S. members an e-mail address that consists of their user name followed by @facebook.com. It will take a few months to make it available to all of the social-networking giant's 500 million members.

The Messages service aggregates Facebook communications—e-mail, text and chat—into a social in-box. "We want people to be able to communicate in whatever way they choose," Facebook spokeswoman Meredith Chin says.

There's a view for messages from Facebook friends and friends of friends. Less-important communications, such as newsletters, are routed to a folder for "other" messages.

Facebook says members will be able to access privacy controls to block unwanted messages.

The company will aggressively police spam. It also will bar software developers from using Facebook messages to contact members without their explicit permission.

Messages can be sent to traditional e-mail services such as Google's Gmail or Yahoo Mail.

Users can attach files, including photos and videos. Facebook says it won't limit the size of these files but will have systems in place to prevent abuse.

Unlike other e-mail services, though, Facebook messages don't have subject lines. Users can't send an e-mail to several people at a time. Facebook also has no provision for users to automatically send an "out of office" message.

"This is not an e-mail killer," Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said at a news conference in San Francisco. "It is a messaging system that includes e-mail. We don't expect anyone to totally switch from Yahoo or Gmail to Facebook."

"People always win when there's more choice, because it leads to better products," Google spokeswoman Victoria Katsarou said.

Yet Zuckerberg says that e-mail is past its prime in an era of texts and instant messages.

The e-mail revamp closely follows other Facebook initiatives to attract users. For example, it added an online check-in application and a groups function for specialized conversations.

Facebook will collect $1.3 billion in worldwide ad revenue this year, about twice what it did in 2009, according to eMarketer.

To use shortcuts, set up default e-mail program

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I have Windows 7 on my PC. When using Internet Explorer, I can't go to the Page heading and click on "send page by e-mail" or "send link by e-mail." Can you help?—Jim Thompson, Conneaut, Ohio

ANSWER: If you're working with a new PC, this probably means you haven't specified an e-mail program to use. But if you've used these features before and they don't work now, the problem probably is caused by downloaded enhancements to Internet Explorer, such as toolbars.

To specify an e-mail program for Internet Explorer to use (Microsoft Outlook or another program on your PC), go the Start button, choose Default Programs on the right, and click "set program access and computer defaults." Click the arrow icon to the right of Custom and pick a default e-mail program.

But if the Internet Explorer "send page" and "send link" functions have quit working, you can return the browser to its original settings. While that's easily done, there are consequences. You are likely to disable features you've added to the browser, such as toolbars, and eliminate any customized privacy or security settings you've set up in the browser's Internet Options section.

You'll also lose things stored in the browser, such as passwords, cookies (software that automatically identifies you to websites), and your browsing history (a list of previously visited websites.) If you want those things back, you'll have to restore them manually.

To reset Internet Explorer, go to the Tools heading, click on Internet Options and choose the Advanced tab. Then click on the Reset button next to "Reset Internet Explorer settings."

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I'm having problems with my Logitech cordless mouse. It reacts very quickly to every click. When deleting an e-mail message, often two messages disappear. It is very difficult to open a pull-down menu. When trying to drag a file to a folder, the file will open. I have changed the batteries and slowed down the mouse speed, to no avail.—Vic D'Amico, Ottawa

A: The flaw in your mouse is that it registers two clicks every time you click it once. As a result you delete two messages instead of one, open and close pull-down menus, and open files you meant to highlight. You can either replace the mouse or try to improve it by adjusting its settings.

Some people have found that speeding up the mouse helps. This reduces the time interval in which a second mouse click will register. To speed up the mouse, go to Start, click Control Panel and click the mouse icon. Select the "buttons" tab and adjust the "double-click speed."

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune*. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; e-mail: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY



In Loving Memory of,

Edward Briggimann Flores

We, the family, humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass will be offered every morning beginning on Friday, November 19, 2010 at 6:00 a.m. and Holy Rosary will be said at 7:00 p.m. On Sunday, November 21 and Thursday, November 25, 2010, Mass will be offered at 7:30 a.m. at the San Jose Church, in Oleai.

On the final day Saturday, November 27, 2010 Rosary will be said at 5:30 a.m. followed by Mass at 6:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served immediately thereafter.

Your presence and prayers will be greatly appreciated.

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Ginen I Familia

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of the late

IGNACIO PALACIOS TOGAWA
(Takabo)

who died on October 30, 2010, would like to express our humble and heartfelt gratitude to Bishop Thomas A Camacho, the Clergy of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, our relatives and friends, and all those who have shown their love and support to us in any way during the time of our bereavement.

To the Mount Carmel Choir and the Himig Choir, we thank you for the generosity of your time in providing prayerful and liturgical songs on the funeral day.

And to those who assisted our BELOVED in any way to give him comfort in his final days, we thank you for your kindness and compassion to him.

With love and prayers,
Consolacion (Connie) C. Togawa and Family

Life & Style

Striking, private, and almost royal: Kate's story

LONDON (AP)—She's a country girl who loves the late-night club scene. A reluctant fashion icon who says she doesn't fuss over her clothes—but looks stunning in just about anything.

Kate Middleton has kept her thoughts to herself and a circle of trusted friends during her long romance with Prince William.

Until she spoke out about her love for the 28-year-old prince and her admiration for his mother, the late Princess Diana, on the day their engagement was announced, Middleton had kept totally mum about her relationship and her thoughts about joining "The Firm," as the royal family is popularly known.

So who is the future queen, and what matters to her?

Only her closest friends know if she has hoped for years to marry William, as some schoolmates say—pointing out that she went out of her way to catch his eye their freshmen year at college. Or if she was content in her role as the on-again, off-again girlfriend of one of the most eligible men in the world.

In the absence of words there have been images.

Kate glamorous in evening wear, Kate lounging on a yacht in a white bikini and—most surprisingly—Kate in black bra and panties topped by a sheer dress at a charity fashion show in early 2002, when she and the prince were just friends. That event prompted William, according to biographer Katie Nicholl, to tell a friend that "Kate's hot."

Shortly afterward, Nicholl said, the prince made his move, setting in motion the events leading to next year's gala royal wedding.

After romance blossomed, Middleton made an effort to keep out of the public eye so she and William could enjoy each other's company in private, Nicholl said.

"They tucked themselves away," she told The Associated Press. "They ordered curries from the local curry shop at the end of the road. They called in DVDs. They had a very successful understanding that they would never be photographed together, they wouldn't be pictured holding hands. When they turned up together, it was separately. And that stood them in good stead. They could keep that relationship clandestine for the best part of a year."

It has not always been smooth sailing. The prince pursued several other young women while dating Middleton, and the college sweethearts separated several times over the years—once in 2004, when William reportedly complained of claustrophobia in the months before graduation; and later in 2007, when William was photographed dancing the night away with other women at nightclubs.



AP

Britain's Prince William and his fiancee Kate Middleton pose for the media at St. James's Palace in London, Tuesday Nov. 16, 2010, after they announced their engagement. The couple are to wed in 2011.

Middleton, 28, now describes that as an unhappy time, but she did not sit home and mope. She was photographed partying in a thigh-skimming mini-dress with friends and devoted time to training for a challenging charity rowboat race.

The couple soon reunited—and have spent as much time together as possible since, although William has been busy with his military training, which often keeps him away for weeks at a time.

Now that their relationship is back on track—and her entry into the royal inner circle assured—Middleton's family background is coming under increased scrutiny.

She is a commoner who does not come from the highest segment of British aristocracy, where birth has been rewarded with great wealth for generations. But Middleton's parents have made millions from their party supply business, Party Pieces.

They live in Bucklebury, a pleasant village that is part suburbia and part rural England, where most of the ample houses are obscured by high hedges. It is a place where many drive Range Rovers—at about $100,000 a pop—to make it easier to ford the dirt roads when they occasionally flood.

Middleton, an avid sportswoman who likes to ski and hike, is popular there, mostly because she has not put on airs since getting close to William.

Local resident Brian Ward said Middleton is ready for her new role.

"She is well suited," he said. "Lots of people round here know her very well because she is a very ordinary girl and she goes down the local pub. Our cricket team used to use the pub down there as their base in the season, and on a Sunday she'd be in there and she'd talk to us as she would anyone else. No one would ever know who she was."

The party business, based in nearby Yattendon, is a family affair, with Kate and her sister Pippa and brother James helping out.

Still, there has been some sniping, with catty references to her mother's work as a flight attendant before she and her husband started Party Pieces. But Middleton, now sporting a half-million-dollar rock on her ring finger, may have the last laugh.

"I think people are incredibly snobby when it comes to her family, who seem hardworking and interesting and interested people," said Richard Dennen, a friend of the couple from their days at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

"Historically, kings in this country have married out of their gene pool. In recent history, when they've married members of the aristocracy, I don't think it's worked out particularly well."

It is inevitable that Middleton will become a fashion icon who will be compared to Diana, who graced thousands of magazine covers around the world before her death.

Middleton has managed to retain a squeaky clean image despite a penchant for the night life when she and William are in London.

They are inveterate clubbers, often seen in London's priciest venues, where they are usually welcomed like—well—royalty.

But Middleton nearly always leaves looking her best, so the paparazzi photos of her are invariably flattering, even if William sometimes looks the worse for wear.

It may be the magic of youth—or the blessings of good bone structure—but Middleton seems to project joie de vivre, not Keith Richards-style decadence, even when leaving posh nightclubs at 2 or 3 in the morning.

There is no question that Middleton faces a wrenching transition from private citizen to royal. Unlike Princess Diana, however, she has had years to get ready and has already received some coaching on how to deal with the constant media scrutiny and the ever-present paparazzi.

She also has a university education, which Diana—only 20 when she became Princess of Wales—never obtained. Middleton earned a degree in art history, which was William's focus before he switched to geography.

"She is the best prepared princess for the future that there has been," said Robert Jobson, author of "William and Kate: The Love Story." "She has had a chance to get to understand what is going on inside and outside the royal family."

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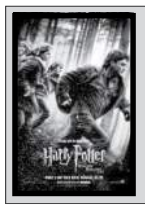
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Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson
Fantasy, Children's, Family • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
The final chapter of the Harry Potter saga comes to the screen in this feature adaptation of the popular novel by children's fantasy author J.K. Rowling, with series veterans Steve Kloves and David Yates writing and directing, respectively. The Deathly Hallows will be split up into two films, with Part 2 set for release six months later.



The Next Three Days
Fri and Sat 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sun through Tues 1:25 4:25 7:25
Russel Crowe, Elizabeth Banks
Thriller • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Russell Crowe teams up with Academy Award-winning writer/director Paul Haggis (Crash) and co-star Elizabeth Banks for this Lionsgate thriller concerning a man willing to break his wife out of prison in order to get her out of a murder conviction. Liam Neeson heads up the supporting cast, which includes Brian Dennehy, Olivia Wilde, and RZA.



Skyline
Fri and Sat 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
Sun through Tues 1:10 4:10 7:10
Donald Faison, Eric Balfour
Science, Fiction • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
A series of blindingly bright lights appear all over Los Angeles, mesmerizing the citizens of the city while luring them to an uncertain fate in this sci-fi thriller from sibling filmmakers Greg and Colin Strause. As speculation regarding the origin of the mysterious lights runs rampant, a Los Angeles entrepreneur (Donald Faison), his best friend, Jarrod (Eric Balfour), and Jarrod's frightened girlfriend (Scottie Thompson) struggle to resist temptation as they seek out the source of the luminous threat.



Unstoppable
Fri and Sat 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sun through Tues 1:05 4:05 7:05
Denzel Washington, Chris Pine
Action • Rated PG 13



Megamind
Fri and Sat 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:30
Sun through Tues 1:15 4:15 7:15
Will Farrell, Tina Fey
Comedy, Children's/family • Rated PG



Due Date
Fri and Sat 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40
Sun through Tues 1:20 4:20 7:20
Robert Downey, Jr., Zach Galifianakis
Comedy • Rated R



Paranormal Activity 2
Fri and Sat 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:30
Sun through Tues 1:30 4:30 7:30
Katie Featherston, Micah Sloat
Thriller • Rated R

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Man seeks words of comfort for sister unlucky in love

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I'm a 33-year-old male who has finally found the love of my life. My girlfriend and I have been together for three years. Needless to say, an engagement is right around the corner.

I have a sister who has struggled her entire life dating the wrong men. She's beautiful inside and out. She called me last night crying, asking me why men always cheat on her.

Most people would assume that the use of the word "always" is an exaggeration. I would have to say that 90 percent of her boyfriends, have indeed, cheated on her one way or another—whether it was in high school, or when she dated a race car driver or, more recently, an acquaintance of mine.

What can I say to reassure her that there are some good guys left in this world who won't cheat?

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS FOR SIS

DEAR LOOKING FOR ANSWERS: Tell your sister that there are men with character who take relationships seriously. They may not be as glamorous as a race car driver, or flashy or glib, but they have more important qualities to offer. Point out that when one man after another is unfaithful, it can damage a woman's self-esteem. And when that happens it can make her insecure and willing to suspend her better judgment out of fear that she'll be alone.

Explain that women with high self-esteem receive more respect because they won't settle for less, and that they don't jump into relationships—they wait for a man to prove himself. Men value more highly what they have to work for. Perhaps that will help to set her straight.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have lived an amazing life surrounded by family, friends and loved ones. My parents and maternal grandparents are still active in my daily life. Because I am so close to all of them I'm scared, worried and sometimes downright depressed at the thought of losing any of them.

I know in the circle of life, death should be accepted as the next great adventure, but I don't know if I can handle that. I'm asking for advice on how to handle these events now. I do not have family near me but an amazing circle of friends for support. I just know that I'm going to slip into a world of sadness that I'm afraid I won't come out of. My problems may seem minor in light of today's issues, but I do need guidance.

SELFISH IN LAS VEGAS

DEAR SELFISH: The concerns you are feeling are not "selfish." They are normal, if somewhat premature.

You are fortunate to have your parents and grandparents in your life—if only through phone calls and e-mails. You are also lucky to have supportive friends nearby.

The hardest part of grieving the loss of a loved one is regret about words that were never said. So tell your parents and grandparents often how much you love and appreciate them. See them when you can. And continue to be the kind of person of whom they can be proud, because when they are gone, YOU will be their legacy.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Please tell me how to tell my husband of 25 years, who has different political views than mine, to shut up during news shows and comedies and mysteries I watch on MY TV—not his—within earshot of his office. He insists on coming in while I'm trying to concentrate and blasting his views whether I want to hear them or not.

FRUSTRATED IN DAYTON, OHIO

DEAR FRUSTRATED: You can't completely ignore your husband's rants—but when you're trying to devote your attention to one of your favorite TV shows, some headphones might lessen the distraction. Contact your local electronics store for suggestions.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Eva Longoria files for divorce from Tony Parker

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Less than four years after a storybook wedding in Paris, Eva Longoria filed court papers Wednesday to divorce basketball star Tony Parker, citing irreconcilable differences.

Parker, a three-time NBA All-Star with the San Antonio Spurs, made no hint as to what caused the split between him and the star of TV's "Desperate Housewives" during a brief meeting with a throng of reporters outside his team's locker room about an hour before a game.

"It's a difficult time right now for me and Eva," Parker said. "We got a joint statement and everything else is our private life."

Asked about speculation that Parker might have been involved with the wife of a former Spurs teammate, Parker replied: "That's my private life."

Parker spoke to the media for less than a minute before a team official ended the interview.

Longoria and Parker were married in a civil ceremony in France on July 6, 2007. The next day, a priest married them in a church across from the Louvre Museum, followed by an exclusive bash at a storied French chateau.



AP

In this Sept. 15, 2010 file photo, actress Eva Longoria Parker and her husband French professional basketball player Tony Parker pose together on the red carpet as they arrive at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's 33rd Annual Awards Gala in Washington.

As a member of the Spurs, Parker has won three NBA championships in recent years. Longoria often had a courtside seat at his games.

Each posted a statement on their Twitter accounts addressing the divorce. "We love each other deeply and pray for each other's happiness," it said.

They have no children together. Longoria has one previous marriage.

In her legal filing, she requested that her name be restored to Eva Jacqueline Longoria. She had taken Parker's name when they married.

The filing also stated the couple had a prenuptial agreement but no details were provided.

Longoria asked the court to require each side pay its own attorney fees. She also wants to receive spousal support from Parker but not pay any to him.

Longoria's spokeswoman, Liza Anderson, said the actress had no further comment.

Longoria, 35, did not indicate in the court filings when the couple broke up.

Parker, 28, signed a multi-year extension with the Spurs two weeks ago. At the time, the French point guard insisted that he and Longoria wanted to remain in San Antonio.

"I've gotten great support from my teammates and my coaches," Parker said. "And I'll focus 100 percent on the Spurs and try to win basketball games."

Pink sings out: She's expecting a child

NEW YORK (AP)—Pop star Pink says she's eating for two.

The Grammy-winning singer confirms her pregnancy on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" airing Wednesday. It's the first child for Pink and her motocross-racing husband Carey Hart.

Pink tells DeGeneres this is a pregnancy she worked for, explaining: "It was not an 'Oops!'"

And while she isn't sure if the child is a boy or a girl, she says her doctor is hinting it's a girl.

She did not specify a due date during her appearance.

On the show, DeGeneres presents the 31-year-old mom-to-be with a personalized baby's onesie and a kid-sized motocross bike.

Palin book knocks Levi Johnston, 'American Idol'

NEW YORK (AP)—Sarah Palin isn't done with Levi Johnston. And she isn't crazy about "American Idol," either.

The former Alaska governor and GOP vice presidential candidate writes in her new book that it was "disgusting" to watch Johnston, the estranged father of her grandson, exploit his sudden fame after she was chosen as U.S. Sen. John McCain's running mate in the 2008 election. She alleges that he was absent when her daughter Bristol Palin gave birth to Tripp and that he disgraced himself by repeatedly criticizing the Palins.



"Of course, we all had to bite our tongues—more than once—as Tripp's father went on a media tour through Hollywood and New York, spreading untruths and exaggerated rhetoric," Palin writes. "It was disgusting to watch as his fifteen minutes of fame were exploited by supposed adults taking advantage of a lost kid."

Bristol Palin has been featured on ABC's "Dancing With the Stars," but Sarah Palin has a few words for Fox's "American Idol." She refers to "talent-deprived" contestants who suffer from "the cult of self-esteem."

"No one they have encountered in their lives—from their parents to their teachers to their president—wanted them to feel bad by hearing the truth," she writes. "So they grew up convinced that they could become big pop stars like Michael Jackson."

The Internet has been abuzz in recent days about how Bristol Palin, who has consistently landed at the bottom of the judges' leaderboard on "Dancing With the Stars," has been able to remain on the show. Some critics have suggested that voters—particularly supporters of her mother—have been voting in blocs and manipulating the system.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Ferrigno among volunteers for Arizona sheriff

PHOENIX (AP)—An Arizona sheriff has sworn in 56 members of a new volunteer sheriff's posse, including actor-bodybuilder Lou Ferrigno. The citizens' group will aid Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio's deputies in efforts to crack down on illegal immigration. Ferrigno, best known for his starring role in "The Incredible Hulk" television series, lives in California. He says the Arizona posse volunteers can help protect the country against drug and immigrant smugglers. "I must warn you that we are in for a rude awakening, because this country right now is in a lot of danger," Ferrigno said at the ceremony Wednesday. The sheriff said action-film star Steven Seagal and actor Peter Lupus of TV's "Mission: Impossible" fame also are members of the posse group, though they weren't sworn in at the ceremony.

Smith's 'Just Kids' is award winner for nonfiction

NEW YORK (AP)—Patti Smith is a literary star. The singer-poet's memoir about life in New York City in the 1960s, "Just Kids," won the National Book Award for nonfiction. The fiction prize Wednesday night went to Jaimy Gordon's "Lord of Misrule," while Kathryn Erskine's "Mockingbird" was cited for young people's literature. Terrance Hayes' "Lighthead" won for poetry. Honorary medals were presented to "Bonfire of the Vanities" novelist Tom Wolfe and to one of the creators of "Sesame Street," Joan Ganz Cooney.

The Doors members: Fla. gov should pardon Morrison

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)—Guitarist Robby Krieger and keyboardist Ray Manzarek, who played with rock legend Jim Morrison in The Doors, are supporting Florida Gov. Charlie Crist's proposal to pardon Morrison for an indecent exposure conviction after a 1969 Miami concert. Both bandmates said Wednesday that Morrison never actually pulled out his penis during the now infamous concert at the Dinner Key Auditorium. They said he was drunk and teased the crowd but he never followed through. They said Morrison was inspired that night by a stage group called The Living Theater, which was performing plays in which actors disrobed—but he didn't actually undo his pants. Morrison was appealing the conviction when he was found dead in 1971 in a Paris bathtub.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



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By Jim Davis



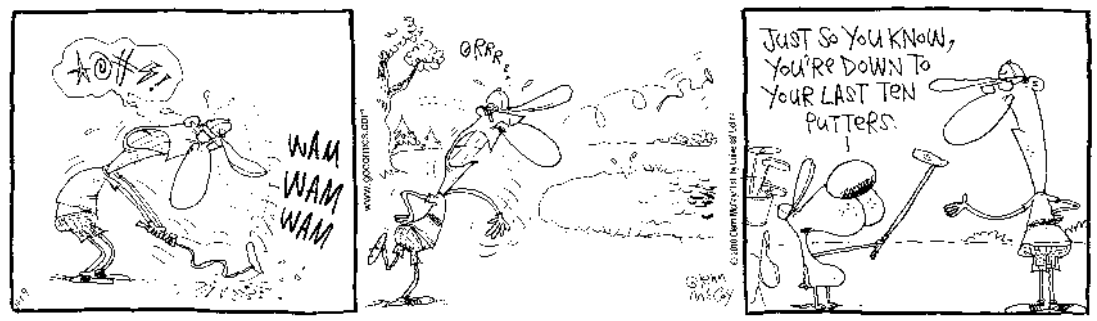
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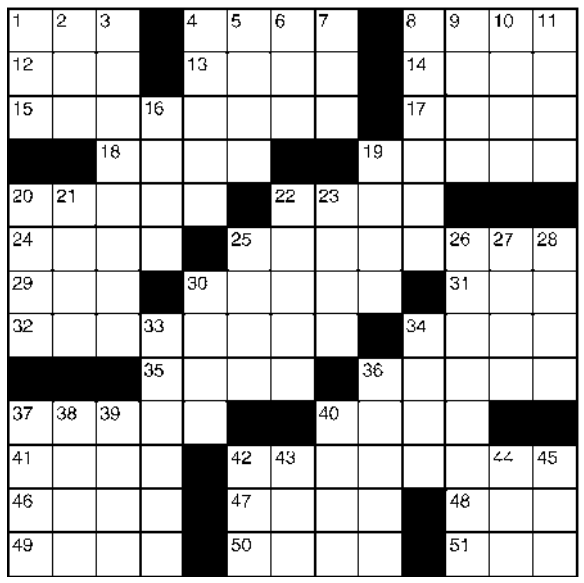
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32 Episcopal, perhaps
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41 Grad
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48 Time of your life?
49 Drunkards
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5 Scull supply
6 Evergreen type
7 — carte
8 High-pH chemical
9 Baseball scores
10 Jog
11 Stitches
16 Cereal choice
19 Catcher's aid
20 — Major
21 Conceited
22 Dieter's lunch
23 In due time
25 Anatomical cavities
26 Napoleon, by birth
27 Mainlanders' mementos
28 Therefore
30 Wasted no time
33 Camels' kin
34 Persian spirit
36 Third letter
37 Siestas
38 Margarine
39 No purebred
40 Filth
42 Cushion
43 Historic period
44 Past
45 Fresh

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■	N	P	U	T	■	O	N	E	■	■	N	E	O
B	A	R	S	■	S	P	Y	■	A	G	A	R
■	T	O	■	A	N	A	■	D	U	S	T	Y
D	O	W	N	S	I	Z	I	N	G	■	■	■
■	■	■	L	I	S	P	■	M	A	M	M	A	L
■	B	I	S	■	■	P	E	A	■	E	E	L	Y
S	A	N	E	■	E	G	G	■	N	O	S	E
M	A	G	I	■	T	O	E	■	T	W	O	S

Yesterday's answer 11-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kerri Strug, 33; Jodie Foster, 48; Meg Ryan, 49; Allison Janney, 51

Happy Birthday: Getting your timing right will be crucial this year, so focus on reaching your goals. Interact with friends and peers. Children are likely to play an important role. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Sharing responsibility with someone will make your life much easier. An innovative approach to love will bring interesting results. Your numbers are 7, 10, 13, 20, 30, 41, 47

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Use a little more aggression but don't become stubborn. You need to find a balance that allows you to finish what you are doing without upsetting someone with whom you deal regularly. Financial gain is apparent. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Emotional opportunities can turn your life around. The more information you have, the easier it will be to make the right move. A money matter can lead to a disagreement. Make sure you pay old debts. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Lay your plans out for everyone to see. There will be strength in numbers. Enjoying what you are doing to earn a living or falling for someone you work with are both likely. Don't compromise. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Give greater thought and time to improving your skills and adding to what you have to offer. Advancement can be yours if you are open about your plans and get everything in writing. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You have to give your own presentation if you expect to get ahead. Someone is likely to make you look bad in order to gain control. Don't underestimate the competition. You have to keep a close watch on what others do and offer. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): The changes you want to make will be opposed. Hidden costs may take you by surprise if you haven't been keeping a close tab on everything. An argument can easily change the family dynamics, leading to an irreversible problem that may need legal or psychological help to mend. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): A relationship may cost you but, in the end, it will be worth every penny you spent. Changes at home will lead to a happy environment and a better lifestyle. Your dedication will pay off and will enhance your reputation. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): This is the perfect time to put your game plan to work. Present your skills to people who can use your services. You can make change happen if you are innovative in the way you approach tasks. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Being secretive will spare you grief. If you are too open about what you want to see happen or what you plan to do, you will face all sorts of problems. You could alienate someone you want to continue to have in your life. Don't cause unnecessary friction. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You'll have more control working behind the scenes and doing things that are not visible to your colleagues, friends or family. The element of surprise is the best way to get what you want. Make sure you have a well laid out plan. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Overspending on things you don't need will come back to haunt you when someone comes by to collect an old debt. Don't leave yourself in a precarious position that might affect your credit or reputation. Love is in the stars. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You can get ahead professionally if you work hard and approach people in a position to help you. Letting people know what you are capable of doing will aid you in finding a position with greater responsibility and higher income. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are responsive, inventive and unique. You are caring and sensitive and always willing to lend a helping hand.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

7			8		4			2
						1		
			6			3		9
				3			8	4
2	5			9				
1		6			7			
	9							
4			1		2			7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	6	3	7	8	5	9	1	4
5	4	8	9	1	2	7	3	6
1	7	9	6	4	3	8	5	2
6	2	5	3	9	4	1	8	7
7	8	4	1	5	6	3	2	9
9	3	1	2	7	8	4	6	5
4	5	2	8	3	9	6	7	1
3	9	7	5	6	1	2	4	8
8	1	6	4	2	7	5	9	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/18

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BOARDING PASSES Solution: 8 letters

S	T	N	E	G	A	L	E	T	A	D	T	I	M	E
D	P	C	A	R	D	L	E	P	R	I	A	M	E	D
S	R	U	B	C	I	I	Ⓢ	V	C	A	O	P	E	O
T	F	A	O	B	S	Ⓖ	G	K	A	N	I	A	C	O
A	A	S	O	R	Ⓐ	I	E	I	E	R	L	N	O	R
E	R	M	K	Ⓑ	G	T	S	Y	T	S	T	S	N	H
S	E	N	I	L	R	I	A	S	S	A	D	E	O	P
P	S	S	N	P	A	W	C	N	U	E	L	T	M	A
L	S	E	G	O	A	I	O	U	P	I	E	A	Y	S
A	S	G	S	T	T	I	R	A	S	L	N	G	N	S
T	E	A	E	E	T	C	R	C	S	T	A	G	U	E
F	C	G	N	A	R	T	L	U	R	E	O	N	M	N
O	C	G	C	H	E	C	K	A	L	A	T	M	B	G
R	A	A	I	R	P	O	R	T	S	E	F	A	E	E
M	V	B	A	R	C	O	D	E	T	S	S	T	R	R

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Yesterday's Answer: Infection

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Classified Ads

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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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WORLD RESORT

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OPEN DATE:	Nov. 19, 2010	**POSITION:**	Accounting Supervisor (One)
CLOSE DATE:	Nov. 27, 2010	**SALARY:**	$5:05 - $6.00 per hour

Qualifications: Candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree with a concentration in Accounting. An Accounting Degree ensures that the supervisor have the requisite knowledge to advance strong accounting principles and be able to instruct junior accountants in properly recording financial information. A considerable amount of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for this occupation.

OPEN DATE:	Nov. 19, 2010	**POSITION:**	Water Park supervisor (One)
CLOSE DATE:	Nov. 27, 2010	**SALARY:**	$5:05 - $6.00 per hour

Qualifications: Candidate must be a college graduate, plus 2 years experience in entertainment, hospitality, and leadership skills.
First-aid and lifeguard certification preferred, but not required.

OPEN DATE:	Nov. 19, 2010	**POSITION:**	Prim-Lifeguard (3 positions)
CLOSE DATE:	Nov. 27, 2010	**SALARY:**	$5:05 per hour

Qualifications: Candidate must be a high school graduate or equivalent.
First-aid and lifeguard certifications preferred, but not required. Sports, recreation, and hospitality skills also a plus.

For more information you may contact Ms. Miriam K. Seman, Human Resources Manager at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle Water Park. Applications must include all the necessary requirement and submit it to the Security Office.

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Saipan Tribune

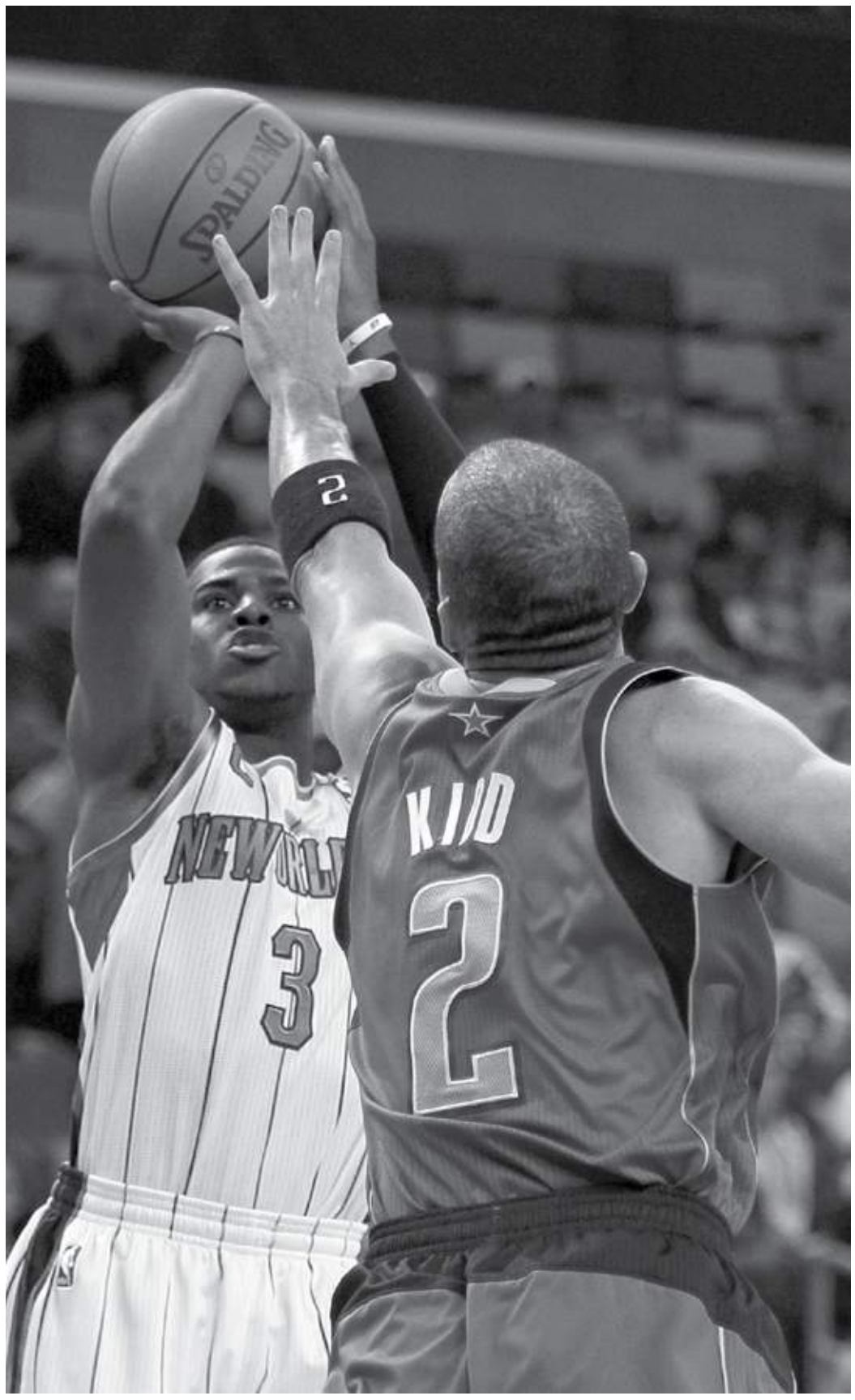
Hornets steal preserves tight win over Mavs

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—David West stole the ball from Dirk Nowitzki with 2 seconds left to preserve a 99-97 win for the New Orleans Hornets over the Dallas Mavericks in the NBA on Wednesday.

Dallas, trailing 98-97, was trying to set up for a potential game-winning shot when West—who finished with 17 points—stole the ball and made one of two free throws for the final margin.

Chris Paul had 20 points and 11 assists as New Orleans avenged its first loss of the season Monday in Dallas.

Nowitzki had 29 points and nine rebounds for the Mavericks.



AP
New Orleans Hornets point guard Chris Paul (3) shoots over Dallas Mavericks point guard Jason Kidd (2) in the first half of an NBA basketball game in New Orleans, Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010.

Spurs 103, Bulls 94

In San Antonio, Tony Parker scored 21 points, hours after his Hollywood actress wife filed for divorce, to lead San Antonio to its eighth straight win, defeating Chicago.

Actress Eva Longoria filed court papers earlier Wednesday to divorce Parker, citing irreconcilable differences between the "Desperate Housewives" star and the point guard. A swarm of media before the game waited for Parker, who called the divorce a private matter.

Derrick Rose scored 33 points for the Bulls, whose win streak ended at four.

Lakers 103, Pistons 90

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Kobe Bryant scored 33 points without playing in the fourth quarter as Los Angeles downed Detroit.

Bryant scored 24 in the first half, helping the Lakers open a 14-point halftime lead, and the struggling Pistons allowed the first seven points of the third quarter to fall behind 66-45. Pau Gasol added 25 points and 12 rebounds for Los Angeles.

Rodney Stuckey scored 18 points for the Pistons, which had to cope with the early ejection of Richard Hamilton.

Celtics 114, Wizards 83

In Boston, the home team was able to rest its starters in the fourth quarter of a dominant win over Washington.

Paul Pierce scored 23 points and Rajon Rondo had 12 points and 13 assists for the Celtics, who were ahead 89-69 at the end of three quarters and went ahead by as many as 37 in the fourth.

Nick Young scored 20 points for the Wizards, who were without No. 1 overall draft pick John Wall, who sat out because of a foot sprain.

Jazz 98, Nets 88

In Salt Lake City, Deron Williams scored 23 points and dished out eight assists as Utah beat New Jersey.

Paul Millsap had 19 points, 15 rebounds and four assists for Utah. All five Jazz starters were in double figures by early in the third quarter.

Anthony Morrow scored 24 points to lead New Jersey.

Heat 123, Suns 96

In Miami, Chris Bosh scored a season-high 35 points before sitting out the fourth quarter as Miami ran away from Phoenix.

LeBron James had 20 points for Miami, which used two big runs—a 24-9 spurt to end the first half, followed by an 18-3 flurry that closed the third quarter—to snap the Suns' three-game winning streak. James also had nine assists and eight boards.

All five Phoenix starters scored in double figures, led by Steve Nash's 17. Nash only had two assists, matching his lowest total in his past 141 games.

Miami outrebounded the Suns 42-32.

Thunder 116, Rockets 99

In Oklahoma City, the hosts recorded their biggest win over the season, defeating Houston.

Kevin Durant scored 24 points in three quarters and Russell Westbrook had 21 points and 12 assists for Oklahoma City.

Durant came in second in the league at 41 1/2 minutes per game, but played just under 30 with Oklahoma City comfortably ahead.

Luis Scola had 26 points for Houston, but stayed on the sidelines in the final period with the Rockets in the second leg of a back-to-back.

Knicks 113, Kings 106

In Sacramento, New York overcome a slow shooting start to beat Sacramento and snap a six-game losing skid.

Amare Stoudemire and Danilo Gallinari each scored 27 points for the Knicks, who were the stronger team in the final quarer despite playing for the second straight night.

Tyreke Evans scored 23 points for the Kings, who lost their sixth straight overall and fifth in a row at home.

Raptors 94, 76ers 86

In Philadelphia, Andrea Bargnani scored a season-high 30 points as Toronto downed Philadelphia in a meetin of the two worst teams in the Eastern Conference.

Sonny Weems added a career-high 25 for the Raptors.

Elton Brand led the Sixers with 27 points.

Timberwolves 113, Clippers 111

In Minneapolis, Michael Beasley scored 33 points and hit the winning jumper with 2.3 seconds to play to lift Minnesota over Los Angeles.

Kevin Love added 24 points and 14 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who nearly blew another big lead in the fourth quarter but held on.

Eric Gordon scored 30 points for the Clippers, who lost their seventh straight.

Greg Oden loses another season to knee surgery

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Trail Blazers center Greg Oden, the former No. 1 draft pick whose short career has been marred by injuries, will have microfracture surgery on his left knee and will not play this season.

Oden hasn't played since last December because he needed surgery to repair a fractured left patella. The Blazers say this operation, announced Wednesday night and scheduled for Friday in Vail, Colo., will repair damaged cartilage and is unrelated to the patella injury.

Oden, the first name announced in the 2007 NBA draft, missed his rookie season because of microfracture surgery on his right knee. The procedure stimulates cartilage growth.

Blazers trainer Jay Jensen said the latest problem with Oden's left knee became apparent about two weeks ago when he experienced some pain and fluid in the joint. Soon thereafter, an MRI revealed the damage.

"We sat there and it was like we'd been kicked in the stomach," Jensen said, choking up. "It felt like hearing someone close to us had died."

Oden was having arguably the best season of his career when he broke his left kneecap during a game last December against the Houston Rockets. He was averaging 11.7 points, 8.8 rebounds and 2.4 blocks as a starter.

The 7-footer often has been compared to former Portland center Sam Bowie, whose career was beset by injuries after the Blazers famously selected him in front of Michael Jordan in the 1984 draft.

The Blazers picked Oden instead of Kevin Durant, who went to the Oklahoma City franchise and has blossomed into one of the NBA's best players.

Another Portland big man, Bill Walton, was selected by the Blazers with the No. 1 pick in the 1974 draft, but he was dogged by a broken nose, foot, wrist and leg over his first two seasons before helping the team to the NBA championship in 1977.

"Some things you just can't explain," Blazers coach Nate McMillan said.

It had been expected that Oden would play this season, but at the start of fall practice he said he wasn't close. When asked at the time if he could return by Christmas, Oden shrugged his shoulders and threw up his hands.

The former Ohio State star has played in only 82 games over parts of two seasons, averaging 9.4 points and 7.3 rebounds.

McMillan said he spoke to Oden on Wednesday.

"As you can expect, the young man is devastated by not having the opportunity to play this season. ... It's like `Here we go again' for him."

Jensen said Oden has a hole in the articular cartilage on the end of a bone in his knee. It is unclear what caused the damage.

Jensen also said he was as perplexed as anyone as to why Oden was injury-prone. The 22-year-old had MRIs on both knees prior to the 2007 draft, which one onlooker called "pristine," the trainer said.

Asked whether he would be able to come back after the latest blow, Jensen said: "I believe in Greg Oden."

The Blazers announced last month they would not offer Oden a contract extension. He was the first No. 1 pick since Kwame Brown not to get one at the end of his rookie contract.

Oden will be a restricted free agent next summer and the Blazers will be able to match any offers for him.

In Oden's absence, the Blazers largely have relied on center Joel Przybilla, but Przybilla also was injured last December and required knee surgery. The Blazers have since started veteran forward Marcus Camby in the middle.

The Blazers were further hurt at the position at the start of this season when Jeff Pendergraph, who was backing up Camby, injured his knee and required season-ending surgery.

Przybilla already has returned to practice and has said he expects to be back by Thanksgiving.

The Blazers also announced Wednesday that All-Star guard Brandon Roy would miss the next two games because of a sore left knee. Roy recently underwent an MRI exam and team doctors determined there is no immediate need for surgery. He will be evaluated again next week.

A three-time All-Star, Roy left the Blazers' game at New Orleans on Saturday with a pronounced limp after playing 22 minutes.

Roy, who leads the team with 18.1 points per game, had expressed concern about his knees after playing significant minutes early in the season.

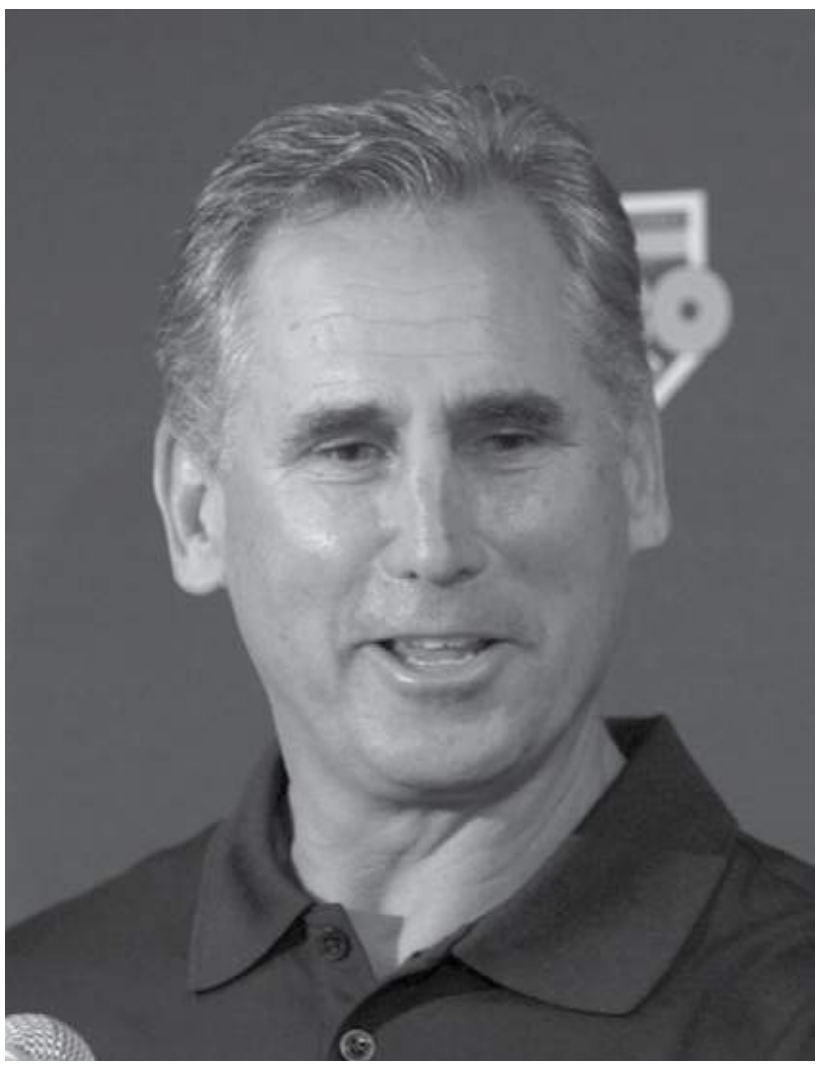
The Blazers host Denver on Thursday and Utah on Saturday.

Black, Gardenhire picked as managers of the year



AP

Minnesota Twins manager Ron Gardenhire addresses the media during a baseball news conference Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010, at the Twins minor league training facility at the Lee Sports Complex in Fort Myers, Fla.



AP

San Diego Padres manager Bud Black, who was voted National League Manager of the Year, talks about his season during a baseball news conference, Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010, in San Diego.

NEW YORK (AP)—Bud Black hung on to win this race. Ron Gardenhire became a first-time Manager of the Year, too, after so many near misses. A month after his San Diego Padres were knocked out of the playoff chase on the final day, Black nudged Cincinnati's Dusty Baker by one point for the NL award Wednesday.

"I guess this vote was sort of like our season, it came down to the wire," Black said on a conference call.

Gardenhire was the clear choice in the American League, earning the honor after five times as the runner-up. He led Minnesota to its sixth AL Central title in nine seasons.

"Congrats to the best manager in bestball!" Twins center fielder Denard Span tweeted. "Way overdue!" Span tweeted an apology moments later for misspelling baseball.

Said Gardenhire: "It's pretty neat to have your name mentioned up there."

Black was selected after guiding San Diego to a 15-game turnaround despite the second-lowest payroll in the majors. The Padres finished 90-72 and led the NL West until a late, 10-game slump and then a loss to San Francisco on the last day eliminated them.

Black drew 16 first-place votes in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America and got 104 points. Baker had 13 first-place votes and 103 points.

Bruce Bochy of the World Series champion San Francisco Giants, Atlanta's retiring Bobby Cox and Philadelphia's Charlie Manuel got the other first-place votes.

"This was a great year in the NL," said Black, who was on a golf course near San Diego when he got the word. "I guess this vote could've gone either way. I feel fortunate that I won. All these guys are so deserving."

Baker, a three-time Manager of the Year, led the NL Central champion Reds to their first playoff spot since 1995. He was listed on 27 of the 32 ballots while Black was picked on 26.

"I'm not terribly disappointed because I didn't expect it," Baker told The Associated Press. "Buddy did a great job."

Baker was in the mountains of California when he heard the vote totals. The announcement came on the one-year anniversary of his father's death.

"When I woke up today, I was thinking about my dad, not the award," Baker said. "He'd be proud of me."

This marked the third time that the NL Manager of the Year was decided by a single point. There was a tie for the AL honor in 1996 between Joe Torre and Johnny Oates.

Two BBWAA voters from every league city send in three top choices when the regular season ends. Votes were counted on a 5-3-1 basis.

Gardenhire drew 16 first-place votes and 108 points, and was the only AL manager listed on all 28 ballots.

Ron Washington, who started the year with a cocaine admission and ended it with Texas' first trip to the World Series, was next in the AL with 10 first-place votes and 81 points. Tampa Bay's Joe Maddon and Toronto's retiring Cito Gaston drew the other first-place votes.

"It's pretty cool," Gardenhire said on a conference call from Florida.

The last time a manager won the award without making the playoffs was 2006, when Joe Girardi got it with Florida.

The pitching-rich Padres were a surprise all season, and led the division by 6 1/2 games on Aug. 25. But San Diego's inability to hit proved to be its downfall.

Needing a win to keep playing, San Diego lost 3-0 at San Francisco on the last day and tarnished the year - "162 defines your season," Black summed up.

"It still stings," he said.

Black moved the Padres within one win of a playoff berth for the second time in his four seasons. His first season as manager, in 2007, the Padres lost an epic 13-inning wild-card tiebreaker game at Colorado.

A former pitcher who once played under Baker, Black was hired by the Padres after Bochy was forced out following the 2006 season.

Black and Bochy are the lone Padres winners for the manager award, first presented in 1983. That first year, Tom Lasorda of the Dodgers beat Houston's Bob Lillis by one point. In 1985, St. Louis' Whitey Herzog topped Cincinnati's Pete Rose by a point.

Gardenhire became the first manager in baseball history to win six division titles in his first nine seasons. Despite another loss to the Yankees in the first round of the playoffs, there are many in the Minnesota organization who feel that he had his best year as a manager.

"A lot of good things came out this season," he said.

Always focusing on fundamentals, he won his 800th career game in September and another division title despite playing the entire year without closer Joe Nathan and most of it minus former MVP Justin Morneau. Gardenhire shuffled his lineups and batting order constantly.

Minnesota finished 94-68 in its first season at Target Field. The Twins were swept by New York in the opening round, the fourth time in eight seasons they've been eliminated by the Yankees.

"It's getting old, getting knocked out," Gardenhire said. "Not finishing second" in the voting, "that's good. Now if we go whack the Yankees in the playoffs next year, we'll get that done."

Gardenhire joined Tom Kelly as the only managers in Twins history to win the award. Gardenhire finished second the last two years, along with 2006, '04 and '03.

The next BBWAA award will be the AL Cy Young, to be announced Thursday.

Woods enters a rebuilding stage

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

Newsweek posted an op-ed piece by Woods on Wednesday titled, "How I've Redefined Victory." He is scheduled to be a guest for two segments Thursday on ESPN Radio's "Mike & Mike in the Morning."

As he approaches the one-year anniversary of a Thanksgiving night car accident that wrecked his image, these are some of the signs that Woods is entering a rebuilding stage.

"It's a positive step for him," said Mark Steinberg, his agent at IMG. "He's making the effort to do some things different."

Woods has had a Twitter account since June 2009—his sign name, "Tiger Woods" was secured about a year before that—but the only tweets were to announce his Twitter page, Facebook page and a redesign of his website.

Then came a tweet at 11:08 a.m. Wednesday: "What's up everyone. Finally decided to try out twitter!"

Woods had just over 90,000 followers until that tweet. Within three hours, he had added over 40,000 more followers, adding them by the thousands each hour. A person confirmed that he was typing the tweet himself, and Woods added this: "Yep, it's me. I think I like this twitter thing. You guys are awesome. Thanks for all the love."

"Tiger wants to do some things a little differently moving forward," Steinberg said. "He wants to be a little more connected to the fans, and this is just one new addition."

Woods is identified at the bottom of the *Newsweek* op-ed piece as "founder of the Tiger Woods Foundation, which has helped educate more than 10 million kids."

He writes about how much is life was out of balance and his priorities were out of order a year ago, when he was caught in numerous extramarital affairs that cost him three major endorsements and eventually led to his divorce from Elin Nordegren.

"At first, I didn't want to look inward," Woods wrote. "Frankly, I was scared of what I would find—what I had become. But I'm grateful that I did examine my life because it has made me more grounded than I've ever been; I hope that with reflection will come wisdom."

Woods said he spends some evenings alone with his two children, and it's helping him appreciate what he had overlooked.

"Giving my son, Charlie, a bath, for example, beats chipping another bucket of balls. Making mac and cheese for him and his sister, Sam, is better than dining in any restaurant," he wrote.

He ends the op-ed piece by writing, "I'm not the same man I was a year go. And that's a good thing."

Steinberg said it has not been decided if Woods will make an appearance on television during the next few weeks.

Woods, who lost his No. 1 ranking two weeks ago to Lee Westwood, recently returned from two weeks of tournaments in Asia and Australia, where he posted consecutive top 10s for the first time this season, but didn't come close to winning either one. By failing to defend his title in the Australian Masters, it marked the first time in his career he went a calendar year without a win.

He next plays the week after Thanksgiving at his Chevron World Challenge, his final tournament of 2010.

Bush hopes to return as Saints come off bye

METAIRIE, La. (AP)—Elusive as Reggie Bush can be on a football field, he is also proving tough to pin down on whether he'll be ready to play against Seattle on Sunday.

The dynamic running back of the Saints (6-3) and punt returner was limited in practice on Wednesday. He's been sidelined since breaking a bone in his lower right leg in Week 2.

Bush says a decision on whether he could return against the Seahawks (5-4) would be made by the team at the end of the week.

"We'll see what happens. I feel like this is a good weekend to get out there," he said.

He said ultimately it is not just his decision because he's never had an injury like this before.

"It's me. It's the coaches. It's the trainers and the doctors. If we feel like collectively I can get back out there and play this weekend, I'll get back out there," he said. "If it were up to me, I would have been playing."

Bush also was limited in practice late in Week 9 and traveled for a road game in Carolina, going through a pre-game workout before he was ruled out for his seventh missed game of the season.

"I felt like I could have played at that point," Bush said. "Again, it's not just my decision. It's a collective decision and a collective effort."



AP

In this Dec. 7, 2008, file photo, New Orleans Saints running backs Pierre Thomas, left, and Reggie Bush walk off the field after an NFL football game against the Atlanta Falcons at the Superdome in New Orleans.

Last week, while many of the Saints left town for a short vacation during the bye week, Bush stayed in New Orleans and continued his rehabilitation and sounded optimistic that he would be back against Seattle and his old college coach at Southern California, Pete Carroll.

Saints coach Sean Payton often tries to keep opponents guessing about the status of key players, and in Bush's case, that's been going on for several weeks.

"He moved around pretty well and got some good work. We just keep plugging ahead and increasing the workload," the coach said when asked if Bush's return was likely this week. "Each week he has gotten better and ... there haven't been any setbacks, so naturally he's better today than he was a week ago or two weeks ago."

The Saints opened the season 2-0 with Bush in the lineup and are 4-3 since, although it's not clear how much Bush's absence hurt the offense from week to week. The Saints have had their three most lopsided victories—double-digit wins over Tampa Bay, Pittsburgh and Carolina—without Bush.

Still, his return would give the Saints more options. Bush has been effective as a runner, receiver and punt returner.

"There are many ways we can get Reggie the ball," quarterback Drew Brees stressed after Wednesday's practice. "Anytime you can just give him the ball in space, he's a matchup problem for everybody, because there's not really a guy who can cover him in a short area because of his quickness and athletic ability."

It appears that the Saints are getting healthier as they get a stretch of the schedule that very well could decide how viable a threat they are to defend their Super Bowl title.

New Orleans trails NFC South Division rival Atlanta (7-2) by only a game for the top seed in the NFC.

The only players who didn't suit up for Wednesday's practice were safety Darren Sharper with a sore hamstring and tight end Jeremy Shockey with bruised ribs. Running back Pierre Thomas was back in shoulder pads and helmet, but has rested his left ankle during 11-on-11 drills.

Still the fact that Thomas, the Saints' leading rusher last season, was not in a walking boot or crutches as he was two weeks ago was a sign of progress.

"With him, I really just want to go day-to-day here this week and just see how he continues to move," Payton said.

Reserve cornerback Patrick Robinson, who is coming back from a sprained right ankle, was the only other player to miss team drills.

Report: Booster received payment plan for Newton

Mississippi State booster Bill Bell told ESPN.com that he received a payment plan designed to get Cam Newton to sign with the Bulldogs from a man who said he represented the quarterback's father.

Bell, a former Mississippi State player, said Kenny Rogers sent him a text message outlining a payment schedule that included $80,000 on the day Newton signed, $50,000 30 days later and $50,000 30 days after that. Rogers, who has worked for an agent, is also a former Mississippi State player.

"When he asked for it, it was like 'Bam!'" Bell said in the report. "He told me this kid's dad is going to want money and the next day he sent me a text message. He didn't say anything other than 'This is what I want and I want it in three installments.'"

Cam Newton, a leading Heisman Trophy candidate, eventually signed with Auburn. The second-ranked Tigers (11-0) have clinched a berth in the Southeastern Conference championship game.

Calls from The Associated Press to Bell, Cecil Newton and Rogers' attorney were not immediately returned.

Bell said in the report that the phone that contains Rogers' text message was damaged by water, but he's attempting to retrieve the text through his cell phone provider.

Bell, who lives in Florida, said he was on three-way calls with Rogers and Cam's father, Cecil, when discussions about the payment plan took place. He said Cecil Newton never directly asked for money and he has shared some voice messages with the NCAA.

"(Cecil Newton) didn't come out and say, 'I want $180,000,'" Bell said in the report. "He inferred it and talked about it, but not directly. Kenny would talk about it in front of him, and (Cecil Newton) never corrected him or said, 'No, that's not what we're doing.'"

Bell said the initial contact to him was made by Rogers. But Bell said he also had several conversations with Cecil Newton during his son's recruitment.

"He said it was going to take more than just a relationship with (Mississippi State coach) Dan Mullen and that Cam's relationship with Mullen wasn't what Mullen thought it was," Bell said. "That's when he said, 'Dan Mullen is going to have to put a smile on my face if he thinks he's going to get my son.'"

Bell told ESPN.com he is publicly talking about the payment plan to make clear Mississippi State did not break NCAA rules.



Manny 'lacks old KO sting'; Ariza blames it on training short cuts

BOXING

HOLLYWOOD—Dazzling as Manny Pacquiao's demolition of Antonio Margarito was Saturday (Sunday in Manila), conditioning expert Alex Ariza still feels the pound-for-pound king could have knocked the Mexican out by the seventh or eighth rounds.

But without the usual spring in his legs, Ariza said Pacquiao had to settle for a methodical 12-round unanimous decision that handed the Filipino pound-for-pound king a record eighth title in as many divisions.

"You're chopping down a big tree with a little ax," said Ariza, noting that Margarito would have been knocked out if Pacquiao was in the same shape he was when he fought against Miguel Cotto or Joshua Clottey.

Ariza said the big disparity in weight—Margarito entered the ring at 165 pounds, Pacquiao at 148—was also a factor.

"I think there's a big difference in the ring, that's why Manny got a little tired," said Ariza. "I've never seen Manny get tired before."

Ariza said he was partly to blame for Pacquiao's failure to achieve his old form.

"I think, sometimes when you take shortcuts, there are lessons that you pay at the end. I knew he's gonna win, but at what cost?"

In earlier reports, Ariza said Pacquiao cut corners to reach peak form faster as his training was hampered by distractions at home.

"If you make it one consistent seven-week trip and train the way we trained in the past, that fight is over in seven or eight rounds.

"When Manny had him (Margarito) hurt and wobbled, he didn't have it right. That's when we really, really need it." But Ariza said Pacquiao did enough against Margarito to beat even Floyd Mayweather Jr.

"If this is the Floyd fight, Manny would kill him," said Ariza. "You're not talking about that kind of pressure, that kind of weight, that kind of power, that kind of resiliency. Margarito would knock Floyd out in this fight. " ***(PDI)***

PAIRE

From Page 36

ticipating teams were divided into two groups. Group A is composed of the Top 4 teams in the regular season. MP United (6-0-0) was ranked first, followed by Paired Red (3-1-2), Tan Holdings Football Club (3-1-2), and Paire Black (3-0-3). Paire Red beat Tan Holdings in the tiebreak for second place, as the former scored 15 goals in the regular season against the latter's 14.

Group B is composed of the last three squads in the team standings—Matansa FC, Shirley's Coffee Shop, and Independents.

Paire Red 2, Tan Holdings 1

In the second playoff game, Paire Red edged Tan Holdings, 2-1.

Paire and the rest of the teams in Group A will play in a round-robin playoffs to determine the final seeding going into the Dec. 11 championship round.

Paire's next game will be against sister team Paire Black this Saturday, while the former's last game on Dec. 4 will be over the undefeated MP United.

Independents 4, Shirley's 1

In the lone playoff game in Group B, Independents topped Shirley's Coffee Shop, 4-1.

Independents will go for win No. 2 tomorrow against Matansa, while Shirley's, which drew a bye this weekend, will play Matansa on Dec. 4.

Group B teams will also play in a round-robin playoffs and after they complete their assignments, only the Top 6 teams will advance to the Dec. 11 football festival.

The No. 1 and 2 teams after the round-robin playoffs will dispute the boys U14 crown, while the last four finishers will battle in the consolation games.

NMIFA

From Page 36

kids expected to participate in the one-day affair. The festival is a culmination of the friendly competition in the co-ed U6, U8, and U11 age groups, which played for about two months going into tomorrow's season finale.

The U8 festival will take place at the San Antonio Elementary School from 8am to 3:30pm and will feature 10 teams. The list include MP United White and Blue, Matansa G-1 and T-1, Tan Holdings 1 and 2, Paire Red, Paire Black, Shirley's Coffee Shop, and Independents.

Each squad will play three games during the festival. Each match will be played in two 10-minute halves with a two-minute break.

Over at the Hopwood Junior High School Field, youth strikers in the U11 division will run their own festival from 8am to 2pm.

The U11 league has the most teams for the festival with 16 and they are divided into two groups. Pool A has MP United White, Tan Holdings FC 1, Paire 3, Shirley's 2, Independents 2, Matansa G-2, Paire Red, and MP United Blue. Pool B is composed of Paire Black, Independents 1, Matansa G-1, MP United Silver, Paire 4, Matansa T-1, Tan Holdings 1, and Shirley's 1. Each team will also play three games and will meet squads in their own pool. The same game time is implemented with each match to be played for 20 minutes. Both the U8 and U11 games will have a seven-player a side format.

The Oleai Sports Complex Field will be the venue for the U6 festival, but the schedule of the games and format are unavailable at press time.

The U6 festival, which will run from 9am to 11:30am, will have nine teams—Matansa G-1, Shirley's Coffee Shop, Paire, Independents 1 and 2, Tan Holdings, and MP United White, Silver, and Blue.

This weekend's football festival is reserved only for U6, U8, and U11 age groups, as the competitive U14 and U18 divisions will have their own show next month. The girls and boys' U14 festival is set for Dec. 11 at the Hopwood Junior High School, while the boys' U18 will have their festival at the Oleai Sports Complex Field on Dec. 4

At the end of the U14 and U18 festivals, NMIFA will award trophies to the champion teams and recognize top individual performers in the fall league.

PACIFIC

From Page 36

president Michael White, who attended a meeting in Noumea, New Caledonia last month, said Pacific Games Council executive director Andrew Minogue sent a letter to member-nations, asking for recommendations and the response favoring IF rules was overwhelming.

"Eight to 10 member-nations responded to allow IF rules in the Pacific Games. I think this recommendation will have a good chance come the 2015 Pacific Games," White sad.

IF rules are regulations made by the world governing body of a particular spot. Federation Internationale de Basketball or FIBA is one of them with FIBA Oceania overseeing basketball competitions in the Pacific Games.

FIBA follows the citizenship and residency requirements under the Pacific Games Charter, which had its recent revision in August this year.

Under the revised Pacific Games Charter, only athletes who meet the citizenship and residency requirement are allowed to join the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia. The current Pacific Games Council citizenship rules state an athlete must be a passport holder of the country he is representing, while residency requirement is five years (cumulatively, whether consecutive or not).

IF rules of other sports governing bodies vary and some even allows athletes who are naturalized (given citizenship by virtue of a law). Some IFs also follow the grandfathering system where an athlete's previous representation of a certain country (not his/her birth country) in other regional/international competitions is considered thus he is allowed to represent that country again.

The CNMI, through White, proposed the grandfathering system in the past council meetings, asking to allow athletes who had competed in the Pacific and Mini Games in the past or from 2005 and earlier to participate in the 2011 Pacific Games.

Meanwhile, White clarified that any changes to the eligibility rules will not apply in the 13th Pacific Games next year.

"The Constitution may only be changed at an annual general meeting of the council and by a two-thirds majority vote of those PGAs present and entitled to vote. Since there will be no annual general meeting of the Pacific Games Council, there can be no amendment of the Charter prior to the 2011 Games," White said.

The annual general meeting will be held during the 13th Pacific Games, which will run from Aug. 27 to Sept. 10.

Only the PGC Executive Board has the discretion to waive the eligibility rules on citizenship and residency requirements before the competition in Noumea.

G-STARS

From Page 36

nited a tremendous offensive push and contained the G-Stars to just six points in the third quarter to take a commanding 53-39 lead heading into the payoff period. Hossain kept it going for the Sparks with six more points.

Rabauliman and company, however, turned the tables in the final eight minutes to eke out the one-point win.

The Sparks suffered its second loss in eight games, while the G-Stars improved its win-loss record to 6-3, good for third place in the rankings.

In the first game, Ol'Aces soundly defeated Rollers A, 70-58, led by Juan Maratita and Trevor Ogumoro's combined 33 points.

Ol'Aces set the tone early as they led 16-11 with Ogumoro tossing in six points in the first quarter.

Both teams traded baskets in the second canto, as the margin remained the same, 29-24, in favor of Ol'Aces at the half.

Ol'Aces then began to pull away after the break and stretched its lead to 49-40 heading into the final eight minutes.

Maratita and Wes Tomakane tallied seven points apiece for Ol'Aces in the third quarter.

Rollers A was unable to make defensive stops in the last quarter as Ol'Aces cruised to the easy victory. Maratita and Rollers C's Brandon Aulerio both turned in team-highs of 17 points in the contest for their respective teams.

The win allowed Ol'Aces to tie the Sparks for second place with a 6-2 card, while Rollers A's record dropped to 4-5. The Sonics continue to lord it over in the U19 standings with an 8-1 record.

On Tuesday, the Saints evened out its win-loss card to 3-3 after a 75-42 trouncing of Rollers C, which fell to 2-6.

Rollers C was held to just two buckets in the opening quarter as the Saints built an early nine-point edge , 13-4.

The Saints continued to lead and took a 25-17 advantage at the break with Josh Lizama and Luigi Reyes scoring six points apiece. Ralph Francisco led Rollers C with six markers in the opening half.

Things got worse for Rollers C in the third quarter as Reyes and Josh Kiyoshi each delivered 10 points in the period to give the Saints a 55-29 lead.

Damart Teregeyo then came off the bench with seven points in the fourth quarter to help the Saints seal the deal. Kiyoshi and Reyes combined for 35 points to beat the 30 points turned in by the Rollers C trio of Francisco, David Diaz, and Jasper Yap.

WEDNESDAY
First Game

Ol'Aces 70 – Maratita 17, Ogumorro 16, Tomakane 14, Ichihara 6, Webb 6, Taylor 5, Kautz 4, De Leon 2.

Rollers A 58 – Aulerio 17, Metran 4, Danas 10, Jas. Palacios 9, Torres 7, Laniyo 6, Jos. Norita, DL Guerrero 1 .

Scoring by quarters: 16-11, 29-24, 49-40, 70-58.

Second Game

G Stars 63 – Rabauliman 21, Manalili 12, Clayton 10, D. Palacios 10, Jung 4, Byun 3, J. Palacios 3.

Sparks 62 – Faisao 19, Hossain 17, E Manglona 8, Mettao 6, Sarmiento 6, J Jon Norita 4, M Manglona 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-15, 33-37, 39-53, 63-62.

TUESDAY

Saints 75 – Kiyoshi 19, Reyes 16, Rasa 11, Cruz 9, Lizama 8, Iglesias 4, Namelo 4, Brennan 2.

Rollers C 42 – Diaz 10, Francisco 10, Yap 10, Teregeyo 4, Rangamar 4, Lee 3, Norita 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-4, 25-17, 55-29, 75-42.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	9	2	.818	–
New Jersey	4	7	.364	5
New York	4	8	.333	5 1/2
Toronto	3	9	.250	6 1/2
Philadelphia	2	10	.167	7 1/2

Southeast Division

Orlando	7	3	.700	–
Atlanta	8	4	.667	–
Miami	7	4	.636	1/2
Charlotte	4	7	.364	3 1/2
Washington	3	7	.300	4

Central Division

Chicago	6	4	.600	–
Cleveland	5	5	.500	1
Milwaukee	5	6	.455	1 1/2
Indiana	4	5	.444	1 1/2
Detroit	4	8	.333	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

New Orleans	9	1	.900	–
San Antonio	9	1	.900	–
Dallas	7	3	.700	2
Memphis	4	8	.333	6
Houston	3	8	.273	6 1/2

Northwest Division

Utah	8	4	.667	–
Oklahoma City	7	4	.636	1/2
Portland	7	5	.583	1
Denver	6	5	.545	1 1/2
Minnesota	4	9	.308	4 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	10	2	.833	–
Golden State	7	4	.636	2 1/2
Phoenix	6	5	.545	3 1/2
Sacramento	3	7	.300	6
L.A. Clippers	1	11	.083	9

Yesterday 's Games

Miami 123, Phoenix 96
Toronto 94, Philadelphia 86
Boston 114, Washington 83
L.A. Lakers 103, Detroit 90
Minnesota 113, L.A. Clippers 111
New Orleans 99, Dallas 97
Oklahoma City 116, Houston 99
Utah 98, New Jersey 88
San Antonio 103, Chicago 94
New York 113, Sacramento 106

NBA LEADERS

SCORING

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	10	90	87	284	28.4
Ellis, GOL	11	110	59	292	26.5
Bryant, LAL	11	94	80	283	25.7
Wade, MIA	10	81	74	247	24.7
Rose, CHI	9	86	39	222	24.7
Anthony, DEN	11	101	59	271	24.6
Westbrook, OKC	10	75	83	235	23.5
Martin, HOU	10	68	80	235	23.5
Gay, MEM	12	113	35	281	23.4
Nowitzki, DAL	9	78	49	207	23.0
Gordon, LAC	9	68	62	206	22.9
Gasol, LAL	11	101	48	250	22.7
Scola, HOU	10	90	46	226	22.6
James, MIA	10	70	75	223	22.3
Williams, UTA	11	83	61	244	22.2
Granger, IND	9	73	31	199	22.1
Millsap, UTA	11	98	39	239	21.7
Ginobili, SAN	9	60	46	192	21.3
Richardson, PHX	10	84	13	212	21.2
Howard, ORL	10	74	64	212	21.2

FG PERCENTAGE

	FG	FGA	PCT
Horford, ATL	86	135	.637
Warrick, PHX	45	71	.634
Okafor, NOR	40	65	.615
Millsap, UTA	98	162	.605
Young, PHL	52	88	.591
Fields, NYK	50	85	.588
Ibaka, OKC	47	80	.588
Odom, LAL	71	122	.582
Gasol, MEM	47	81	.580
Howard, ORL	74	129	.574

REBOUNDS

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Love, MIN	12	62	110	172	14.3
Noah, CHI	9	35	80	115	12.8
Gasol, LAL	11	43	91	134	12.2
Evans, TOR	10	45	70	115	11.5
Bogut, MIL	10	41	72	113	11.3
Camby, POR	12	43	88	131	10.9
Howard, ORL	10	25	84	109	10.9
Odom, LAL	11	36	80	116	10.5
Garnett, BOS	10	12	92	104	10.4
Hibbert, IND	9	33	59	92	10.2

ASSISTS

	G	AST	AVG
Rondo, BOS	10	151	15.1
Williams, UTA	11	113	10.3
Paul, NOR	9	91	10.1
Kidd, DAL	9	90	10.0
Wall, WAS	8	78	9.8
Nash, PHX	10	96	9.6
Rose, CHI	9	83	9.2
James, MIA	10	89	8.9
Miller, POR	12	93	7.8
Felton, NYK	11	85	7.7

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

NMIFA YOUTH LEAGUE STANDINGS

Girls U14

Matansa FC	8	7	1	0	37	3	34	22
Paire FC	8	3	3	2	19	14	5	12
MP United FC	8	3	2	3	8	11	-3	11
Tan Holdings FC	8	0	0	8	1	37	-36	0

Boys U18

MP United FC	8	6	2	0	35	9	26	20
Paire FC	8	5	1	2	24	10	14	16
Independent FC	8	1	2	5	11	24	-13	5
Matansa FC	8	1	1	6	7	34	-27	4

BOYS U14 PLAYOFFS

Group A

MP United FC	1	1	0	0	5	2	3	3
Paire FC- Red	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
Tan Holdings FC	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
Paire FC-Black	1	0	0	1	2	5	-3	0

Group B

Independent FC	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	3
Shirley"s FC	1	0	0	1	1	4	-3	0
Matansa FC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Rota Blue Triathlon draws 150 athletes

The Rota Blue Triathlon continues to grow in popularity, with 150 international athletes joining the 17th staging of the event last Saturday, Nov. 13.

The annual signature event of Marianas Visitors Authority was co-sponsored by the Rota Mayor's Office and the Kiyokazu Fitness Club of Japan, which was instrumental in attracting over 150 Japanese athletes to the event this year. Other countries represented in the race were Guam and the United Kingdom.

"We're very pleased with the success of this year's event, especially the large turnout of participants from Japan," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "With the Japanese Yen performing stronger against the U.S. dollar this year, we had more success in enticing competitors to join. Of course, the natural beauty of Rota is still a big draw."

Japanese competitors swept nearly all the top spots in 17th edition of the triathlon. In the A-type Solo Triathlon, which featured a 1.5-kilometer swim, 40-km biking course, and a 10-km run, 32-year-old Yu Yumoto led the men's division with 2:08:54, followed by Taro Shirato in 2:10:28, and Yasunori Teramoto in 2:18:58.

Completing first in the women's division was Rhie Ohara from Japan with a total combined time of 2:59:46, followed in second by Mioko Nakada in 3:01:59, and landing in third was Japan's Atsuko Suzuki with a total time of 3:04:22.

The rigorous B-type solo triathlon featured a 2-km swim, followed by a 90-km biking course, and a 21-km run. Japan's Eri Miyazawa led all competitors in the B-type course, also finishing first among in the women's division in 5:17:43. She was followed by Misako Miyauchi in 6:37:28 and Tomoko Oda in 6:53:18. The top finisher in the men's division was Takahiro Miyazaka in 5:18:55, followed by Misaaki Sato in 5:19:33 and Rennan "Butch" Sublemente of Saipan in 5:31:53.

At 63, Tamio Motojima of Japan was the oldest competitor to complete the triathlon, finishing the B-type course in 7:37:56. Japan's youngest athlete Kenta Suganuma, at 13, completed the triathlon, while 14-year-old Guam native Branlon Fell completed the course.

Competitors were welcomed and congratulated by Rota Mayor Melchor A. Mendiola and other dignitaries at an awards banquet was held on race day at Rota East Harbor.

The Rota Blue Triathlon is one of four major triathlon events held in the Northern Mariana Islands each year, including the XTERRA Saipan Championship, Tagaman Triathlon and the Tinian Turquoise Blue Triathlon.

The triathlon was sponsored by Rota Resort & Country Club, Bay Breeze Restaurant & Bar, JSBM, Aqua Gift Shop, Mark Michael, RUBIN, Sirena, government departments and agencies, numerous volunteers, and the friendly people of Rota. ***(PR)***



1. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 17th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon attracted 150 competitors to the southernmost chain of the CNMI last Saturday, Nov. 13. Photo shows participants in the water at the start of the swim course.



2. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hidea Miyazuka of Japan, center, finished fifth in the 17th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon last Saturday.

RGA holds final qualifier for club championship

The 12th and last slot to the 2010 RGA Club Championship will be at stake tomorrow when the Refaluwasch Golf Association holds the December Ace tournament at the Coral Ocean Point.

Check-in time is at 11am, while tee off is at 12pm.

Jordan Kosam, RGA president, has a slight edge for the December Ace title and the last ticket to the club championship, as he topped the December qualifying tournament last week.

Kosam carded a net 71 a few weeks on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort to set the score to beat for the December Ace. The 12-handicapper fired a 44 in the first nine holes and then played better in the last with a 39 for a gross 83.

If Kosam's net 71 is undefeated in this weekend's tournament, he will secure the December Ace and join the first 11 qualifiers in the club championship.

The club championship will be played for two days, Dec. 18 and 19, with the venue to be announced later. Punching their tickets to the yearend event were Jun Yi Piao (January Ace), Saures (February), Nick Leon Guerrero (March), Carl Hocog (April), Xian Lai Cue (May), Jesse Seman (June), Olopai (July), Jess Wabol (August), Ray Tigilau (September), Tony, Satur (October), and Bae Yong Man (November).

The 12 monthly Ace winners will vie for the Plasido M. Tagabuel Ace of Aces championship trophy. Also at stake in the club's season-finale are the Sid K. Peter and Tony Taitano awards, which are given to the member with the lowest net score of the year and the golfer with the most rounds played, respectively.

For more information about RGA, contact Kosam at 483-3111 or email at jkosam0007@gmail.com. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jordon Kosam, right, seen here with a group of local golfers in a recent tournament, holds the score to beat in the RGA December Ace tournament.

Top 45, Armatech prevail in masters caging

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Top 45 and Armatech started their respective 45A and 40A Masters Basketball Federation of the NMI Masters Cup seasons with a bang last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Top 45 dominated the Ferrera Builders, 83-61, in the first game, while Armatech soundly defeated Ol'Aces, 102-75, in the second game.

In the first game, Top 45 went ahead by 14 points, 20-6, in the opening period thanks to Tony Luzama's six markers. Jun Abedes, meanwhile, scored all of Ferrera Builders' three baskets in the quarter.

Both teams then went back and forth in the second period, but Ferrera Builders failed to trim its deficit. Luzama added eight more points in the second quarter as Top 45 continued to lead by 14 points, 38-24, at the half.

Luzama remained at the helm for Top 45 in the third period and tallied another eight markers to help his team open up a 58-39 lead, entering the fourth and final quarter.

Ferrera Builders had trouble all game finding consistent scoring options.

Besides the lone three baskets by Abedes to start the game and Teddy Bugay's seven points in the last quarter with the game already out of hand, no other player managed to produce six points in a period.

Abedes finished with a team-high 16, while Top 45's Luzama led all scorers with 26 points.

In a tight 40A first quarter, Martin Moreno led Armatech with seven points to help establish a two-possession lead, 23-19.

Then Armatech stretched it to a seven-point advantage, 47-40, at the half. Sonny Ebuen's eight markers kept it going for Armatech in the second quarter.

After 20 minutes of play, 10 points from Ernie Fernandez and three long balls by Elias Rangamar kept Ol'Aces around in the opening frame.

However, after the break Armatech blew the lid off the game and shot ahead by over 20 points, 76-51.

Bernard Montano led the charge for Armatech with nine points in the third quarter. The Ol'Aces' offense ran into a wall and was held to only 11 points in the period.

Ol'Aces would not recover in the final period as both teams essentially traded baskets in the fourth.

Although Ol'Aces' Fernandez tallied 12 points at crunch time to finish with a game-high 24, Armatech's Ebuen added 10 of his own to help secure the win.

Ebuen led Armatech with 22 points, while Fernandez unloaded 24 for Ol'Aces in the loss.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Top 45's Tony Luzama was a boss down low in last Tuesday's 45A MBFNMI Master's Cup game at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

First Game

Top 45 83 –Luzama 26, Palacios 16, Berline 14, Bicera 8, Diaz 7, Masga 6, Rangamar 4, Basa 2.

Ferrera Builders 61 – Abedes 16, Tiples 11, Valencia 10, Bugay 9, Villagas 7, Lopez 6, Iglesias 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-6, 38-24, 58-39, 83-61.

Second Game

Armatech 102 – Ebuen 22, Montano 18, Moreno 17, Bello 8, Arenas 6, Bernardo 6, Canedo 6, Crisostimo 4, Malasarte 4, Santos 4, Tomas 2.

Ol'Aces 75 – Fernandez 24, Luzama 10, Mejia 10, Rangamar 9, Atalig 8, Patricio 6.

Scoring by quarters: 23-19, 47-40, 76-51, 102-75.

Picwee Fun Run tomorrow

Pacific Islands Club will be holding the Picwee Fundraiser Fun Run tomorrow.

Picwee is the name of one of PIC's mascots.

Registration for the fun run is at 6:30am, while the race will begin at 7am.

The race will cover a distance of eight kilometers with runners starting at Obyan Beach then heading to Naftan Bike Trail, Rock Quarry, and back to Obyan Beach.

Entrance fee is $20 for adults and each will receive a race T-shirt. Runners in the 6 to 11 age group will only play $5 registration fee, while U5 runners are free to race. Dogs are allowed, but they should be with leash.

Proceeds from the fun run will go the Marianas March Against Cancers and PAWS. ***(PR)***



Hornets steal preserves tight win over Mavs

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Saipan Tribune
Sports



Rota Blue Triathlon draws 150 athletes

Page 35

Paire foils Matansa's bid for sweep

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire Football Club denied Matansa a regular season sweep in the girls U14 division of the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League, as the two teams' matchup ended in a draw last Saturday at the San Antonio Elementary School.

Matansa won its first seven games of the season, but failed to make it an 8-0 mark after drawing Paire, 1-1. Andrea Camacho scored the first and lone goal for Matansa in the first half, before Mikaela Duenas hit the equalizer in the second half.

Despite the draw, Matansa is assured of the top spot in the regular season and the No. 1 seed in the four-team playoffs. Matansa has one more game left in the three-round robin regular season and will face Tan Holdings FC this Saturday.

Paire and MP United will dispute the No. 2 seeding in the playoffs, as they collide for their last game in the regular season tomorrow. Paire holds a 3-3-2 win-draw-loss card and has earned 12 points to take the No. 2 spot in the team standings, going into this weekend's game. MP United has a 3-2-3 mark and 11 points for third place.

Tan Holdings is at the cellar with its dismal 0-0-8 slate and will be seeded last in the playoffs. The playoff round will be held on Dec. 11 at the Hopwood Junior High School Field and will have a single-elimination format. The No. 1 team will duel the No. 4 squad for the first semis seat, while the No. 2 and 3 teams will square off for the other semis berth. Winners of the semis game will battle for the girls U14 championship.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Matansa Football Club player stops the ball, while a Paire Football Club defender looks on during their game in the girls U14 division of the NMIFA fall league last Saturday at the San Antonio Elementary School.

BOYS U14 PLAYOFFS
MP United 5, Paire Black 2

The boys U14 playoff round started last Saturday with MP United beating Paire Black, 5-2.

In the playoffs, the seven par-

See PAIRE on Page 34



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Camaraderie and fair play will be at its best this weekend when the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association holds the fall season football festival at the various fields on Saipan.

NMIFA *holds football fall festival tomorrow*

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Youth football will be everywhere tomorrow, as the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association hosts its traditional football festival for the fall season this weekend.

The 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Fall Festival will be held in three different fields on Saipan with about 500

See NMIFA on Page 34

Pacific Games participants favor IF rules

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Despite the continued debate in the eligibility rules for the Pacific Games, it is possible that regulations used by various international federations will be adopted in the quadrennial competition.



White

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association

See PACIFIC on Page 34

G-Stars rally to beat Sparks; Ol'Aces, Saints win

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The G-Stars rallied from 16 points down to complete a come-from-behind 63-62 victory against the Sparks in the final regular season game of the Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League U19 division Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Former national player Marvin Rabauliman was at the forefront of G-Stars' uprising in the final canto, delivering 10 points in the clutch to help his team stage the comeback.

Although trailing since the break, the G-Stars relentlessly chipped away at the Sparks' lead. Then with 14 seconds to go in the game and the Sparks ahead by a point, 62-61, G-Stars point guard Jacob Palacios got a rebound and hit a mid-range floater from the baseline to give his team its first lead of the entire second half.



G-Stars forward Marvin Rabauliman goes up for a jumper in the fourth quarter of their Rotary caging game against the Sparks Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

The Sparks frantically tried to gain another scoring opportunity, but failed to get the ball to its side of the court.

Palacios only scored three points in the contest, but his jumper in the final seconds was the game's final points and allowed G-Stars to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

Rabauliman pumped in a game-high 21 points to pace G-Stars, while Ichitaro Faisao led the Sparks with 19 in the heart-wrenching loss.

Before trailing in the second half, G-Stars started the game well and even managed a slim 18-15 lead in the first quarter with Rabauliman firing seven points.

Led by Sahj Hossain's nine markers, Sparks bit back in the second to close the first half with a two-possession advantage, 37-33.

After the break the Sparks ig-

See G-STARS on Page 34